



# NATIONAL ASSEMBLY 1992-2007



*Construction of the Slovene parliament building as the seat of the then People's Assembly was begun in 1954 to a plan by the architect Vinko Glanz and his team, and completed in the year 1959. High-quality local materials, including marble, stone, and wood were used throughout the construction. In 1991 a number of accesses were created to join the parliament building with the adjacent building, which it abuts. The latter was constructed in 1879 for the Kranjska hranilnica savings bank and now contains offices for deputy groups and various parliamentary services. The parliamentary building is also seat to the National Council.*

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November 2007

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# INDEPENDENT SLOVENIA

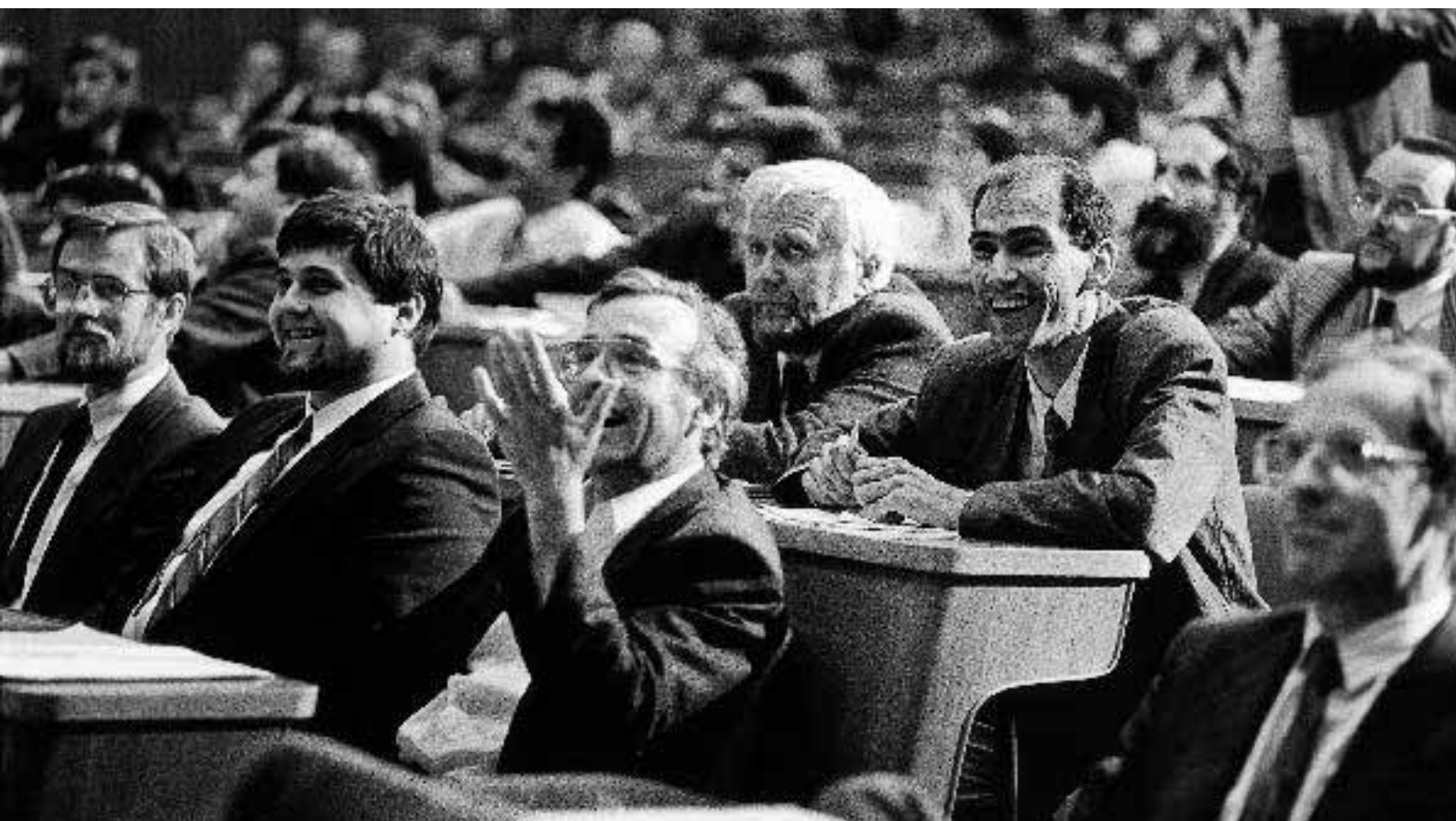
In the second half of the 1980s, intensive independence processes were in place in Slovenia, resulting in the first democratic elections and consequently enabling a gradual transition to a democratic parliamentary system and market economy in the 1990s. An important role in such processes was played by the then representative and legislative body of the country - the Assembly. Between September 1989 and March 1990, the Assembly adopted 86 amendments to the Slovenian Constitution of 1974, thus clearing the path to a peaceful transition towards a democratic society and to the enforcement of political rights of the person and the citizen, as well as to the transition towards a market economy. At the same time, it once again established the sovereignty of the Slovenian nation and its right to self-determination which also included the right to secede.

The first democratic elections in Slovenia were held in April 1990 and were won by the political parties gathered in the Democratic Opposition of Slovenia (DEMOS). This led to the election of the Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia which continued the work already started. By issuing the Declaration on the Sovereignty of the Republic of Slovenia in July 1990, the Assembly established the sovereignty of the Republic of Slovenia and explicitly declared its own statehood. It defined the responsibility of federal authorities and institutions within the territory of the Republic of Slovenia to act in compliance with the applicable legal order of the Republic of Slovenia. Furthermore, it fixed a one-year deadline to adopt a new constitution.

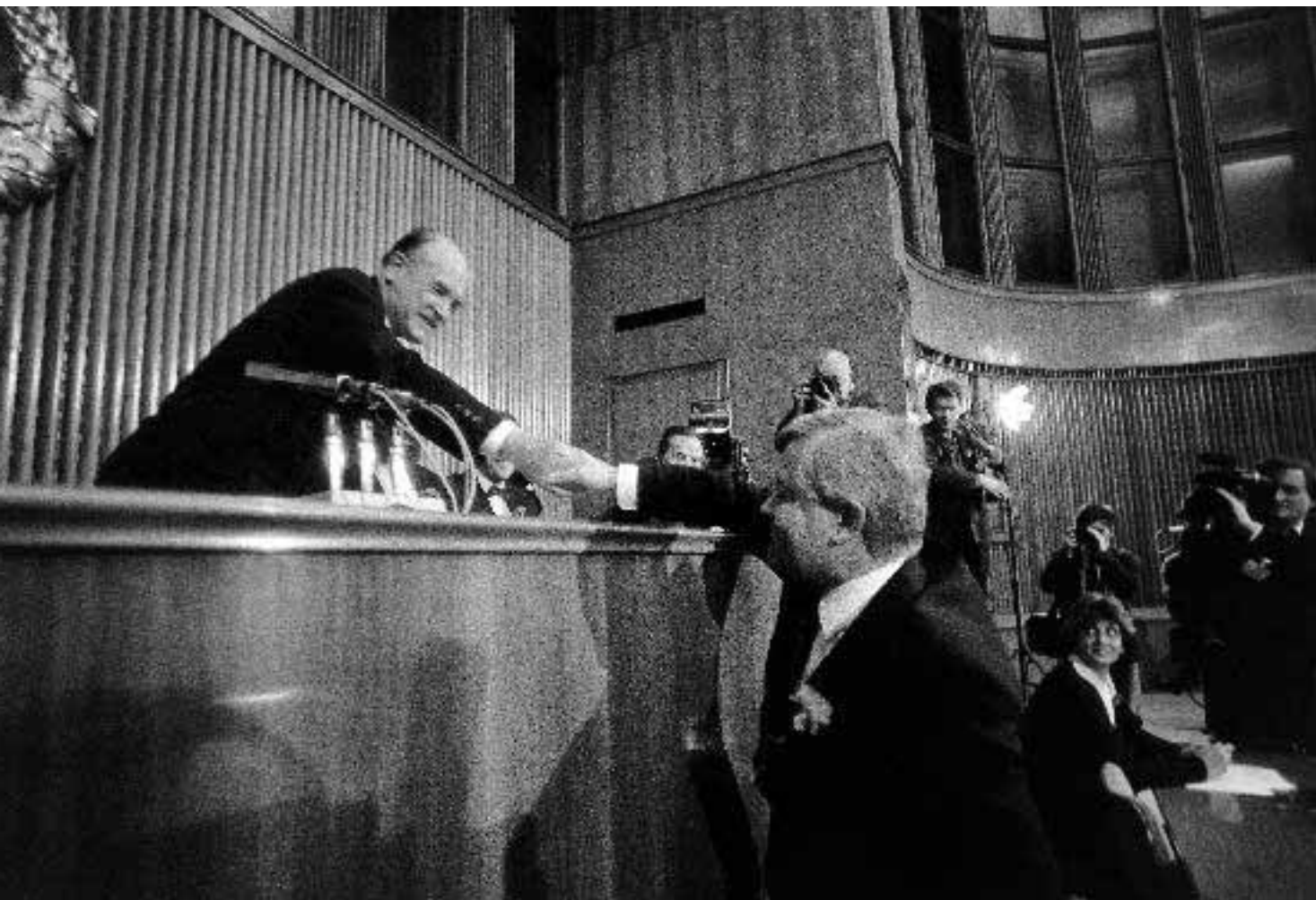
All further decisions of the Assembly systematically complemented the legal basis for the adoption of the decision to make Slovenia an independent and sovereign state, for the proclamation of independence and sovereignty, as well as for the international recognition of Slovenia. At the beginning of December 1990, it adopted the Plebiscite on the Sovereignty and Independence of the Republic of Slovenia Act which determined the content and the date of the plebiscite, the manner of establishing its outcome, the six-month deadline for the adoption of constitutional and other acts aimed at assuming the exercise of sovereign rights, and the manner of proclaiming the results of the plebiscite. With the Statement of Good Intent, it underlined that the establishment of the independent state was not aimed against anyone in or outside Yugoslavia, and that the same right should apply to all nations. By signing the Declaration on the Respect of Basic Conventions of the Council of Europe, it committed itself to respect the conventions of the Council of Europe and apply the standards specified in the conventions in its legal order, and expressed its wish to become an equal member of the Council of Europe.



*The first session of the  
multiparty Assembly of the  
Republic of Slovenia  
(9 May 1990)*



The turnout at the plebiscite held in Slovenia on 23 December 1990 was 93%, and 88.5% of the votes cast were “for” a sovereign and independent state of Slovenia. This act of popular self-determination laid the basis and provided a binding mandate for Slovenia’s national independence.



*Announcement of the  
plebiscite results  
(26 December 1990)*

Immediately after the plebiscite, a programme of activities for the implementation of the plebiscite objectives came into action, together with the preparations for living in an independent state. In February 1991, the Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia submitted the Resolution on the Proposal for Consensual Dissolution of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to other Yugoslav republics and federal authorities, proposing that the country be divided into two or more sovereign and independent states, which was to be carried out gradually, by common agreement and within a reasonable deadline. The Resolution additionally attested the determination of the Republic of Slovenia to act in accordance with the decision of the Slovenian nation at the plebiscite, thus establishing itself as an autonomous, independent and sovereign state. The new state borders should thereon be the internationally recognised state borders of the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia with Austria, Italy, Hungary, and the internal border between Croatia and Slovenia.

*Slovenia becomes an  
independent country  
(25 June 1991)*



Slovenia declared itself a sovereign state on 25 June 1991 with the adoption of the Basic Constitutional Charter on the Independence and Sovereignty of the Republic of Slovenia. This charter determines that the Republic of Slovenia is an independent and sovereign state, which assumes all the rights and duties which hitherto had been transferred to the bodies of the SFR Yugoslavia, it determines the state borders of the Republic of Slovenia and guarantees the protection of human rights and the rights of the national communities in the Republic of Slovenia.

In his address to the members of the Assembly and guests, the President of the Assembly Dr. France Bučar stressed that by adopting the Act on Independence and Sovereignty, the Assembly:

*... "fulfilled the mandate imposed by the plebiscite. It created an independent and sovereign state, the Republic of Slovenia. This is one of the most important milestones in our history. If we consider it merely from a national and legal perspective, then it most certainly signifies the culmination of the century-long efforts of the Slovenian nation to create its own home. Nevertheless, this is neither the beginning, nor the end of our history. Yet it is the turning point in the life of our nation, being thereupon able to independently decide our own destiny."* (Speech by Dr. France Bučar, minutes of the session of all chambers of the Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia, 25 June 1991)

The Yugoslav federal authorities opposed the declaration of independence and engaged in military action. A ten-day war followed in which, however, the Yugoslav army failed to prevent Slovenia from securing independence as the attack only united the Slovenian people and political circles in joint resistance.

After ten days and following the pressure exerted by the European countries, the truce was declared. By signing the Brioni Declaration (named after the Brioni archipelago, where the talks between the Slovene and federal authorities took place in the presence of the European Community representatives), Slovenia halted the implementation of the independence process for three months. On 2 October, just before the end of the three-month deadline, the Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia adopted positions and decisions stressing that with the expiration of the moratorium all liabilities of the Republic of Slovenia arising from the Declaration had ceased and that there were no reasons for its renewal. The Assembly reaffirmed its demand that upon the expiration of the moratorium the last soldier of the Yugoslav People's Army should leave the territory of the Republic of Slovenia by 18 October 1991 at the latest.

From 8 October onwards, Slovenia continued to exercise and implement the Basic Constitutional Charter on the Independence and Sovereignty of the Republic of Slovenia. On that day the Monetary Unit of the Republic of Slovenia Act was adopted, introducing Slovenian tolar as the national currency. On that same day, provisional payment notes were issued and put into circulation as a temporary currency.

In 1991 and 1992, Slovenia's independence was recognised by many countries. The process of Slovenia's international recognition as an independent state culminated on 22 May 1992 when the country was admitted to the United Nations Organisation.

On 23 December 1991, the Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia adopted the new Constitution of the Republic of Slovenia, codifying the already established democratic values and standards, and laying the foundations of a new legal system based above all on respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, on the principle of a social state governed by the rule of law, on a parliamentary form of national authority, and on the principle of the separation of powers between the legislature, the executive, and the judiciary. The Constitution established the National Assembly as the state legislative body, comprising 90 deputies.



*Celebrating the declaration  
of independence  
(26 June 1991)*



*The ten-day war for Slovenia  
(27 June - 7 July 1991)*



# The Republic of Slovenia – Member of the European Union

One of the fundamental goals pursued by the Slovene political leadership from independence onwards was for Slovenia to join the European Union (hereinafter referred to as the EU). In June 1996 Slovenia signed the Europe Agreement on Association and applied for full membership. In the following years numerous activities took place in order to meet the criteria for full EU membership. The National Assembly was actively involved in the process of Slovenia's accession to the EU by monitoring the negotiations, as well as contributing and supplementing the work of the government and that of negotiating teams. In the many years of the EU accession process the National Assembly completed a great amount of important work especially in the area of harmonising Slovene legislation with EU law, and adapted some of the articles of the Constitution. In February 2003, it amended the Constitution by adding a new Article 3a which determines that pursuant to a treaty ratified by the National Assembly by a two-thirds majority vote of all deputies, Slovenia may transfer the exercise of part of its sovereign rights to international organisations (this referring, primarily, to the EU).

A referendum on the accession of Slovenia to the EU was held on 23 March 2003, which in terms of content had the nature of a plebiscite, as on the basis of such the Republic of Slovenia decided on the accession of Slovenia to the EU, and by such automatically also on the transfer of a part of state sovereignty to the institutions of the EU. 60.4% of the electorate participated in the referendum, in which 89.64% of those voting voted "for" entry into the EU (at the same time a referendum was held on the entry of Slovenia into NATO, wherein 66.08% of those voting voted "for" entry into NATO).

In April 2003 Slovenia signed the Treaty of Accession, and on 1 May 2004 became a full member of the EU along with nine other countries.

During the preparations for EU membership and immediately after the Slovenia's entry into the EU, the National Assembly succeeded in establishing all the necessary institutional bases so as not to prejudice its position as legislative body when transferring a part of its state sovereignty to EU institutions. The amendments to the Constitution, the adoption of the Act on Cooperation Between the National Assembly and the Government Regarding EU Affairs, a suitable adjustment of provisions of the Rules of Procedure, a clear determination of competences in the Ordinance on the Establishment of National Assembly's Working Bodies, the adjustment of the organisational structure, and the establishment of the relevant information systems altogether ensure the retention of its status and a smooth implementation of its constitutional, legislative, budgetary, electoral and other competences.

*The building of the European  
parliament in Strasbourg*



# Milestones

## Slovenia's independence process

April 1990	First post-war democratic elections bringing victory to the opposition
9 May 1990	Constitutive session of the democratically elected Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia
2 July 1990	The Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia adopts the Declaration on the Sovereignty of the Republic of Slovenia
6 December 1990	The Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia adopts the Plebiscite on the Sovereignty and Independence of the Republic of Slovenia Act
23 December 1990	Plebiscite on Slovenia's independence
26 December 1990	The Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia announces the plebiscite results at the solemn session. Slovenia celebrates the day of independence and unity to commemorate this event.
20 February 1991	The Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia adopts the Resolution on the Proposal for Consensual Dissolution of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia
5 June 1991	The Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia adopts acts governing the citizenship, aliens, passports, foreign affairs, customs service, foreign exchange, the Bank of Slovenia and other acts important for the establishment and functioning of the state. They enter into force on 25 June 1991
24 June 1991	The Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia chooses the Slovenian national flag and coat-of-arms. Already in March 1990, the seventh stanza of A Toast (Zdravljica) by France Prešeren is chosen as the Slovene anthem
25 June 1991	The Republic of Slovenia becomes an independent state with the adoption of the Basic Constitutional Charter
27 June 1991	Yugoslav Army attacks Slovenia; ten-day war begins
7 July 1991	Signing of the Brioni Declaration - independence process temporarily halted
8 October 1991	The end of the three-month moratorium on independence process
25 October 1991	Last Yugoslav Army soldier leaves Slovenia
23 December 1991	The Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia adopts a new Constitution
23 December 1992	After the elections in the beginning of December, the deputies of the National Assembly meet at the constitutive session

## Slovenia's independence process

December 1991	By the end of 1991 Slovenia is recognised by 10 countries
January 1992	A further 33 countries recognise Slovenia, including the member states of the European Community
3 February 1992	Slovenia acquires special guest status in the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe
22 May 1992	Slovenia becomes a member of the United Nations
14 May 1993	Slovenia becomes a full member of the Council of Europe
30 March 1994	Slovenia signs NATO Partnership for Peace
1 January 1995	Slovenia becomes a founding member of the World Trade Organisation
15 July 1997	The National Assembly ratifies the Europe Agreement on Association between Slovenia and the EU
1 January 1998	Slovenia becomes a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council
1 August 1998	Slovenia assumes the one-month Presidency of the UN Security Council
1 February 1999	With the entry into force of the Europe Agreement on Association, Slovenia becomes an associate member of the EU
12 February 2001	Slovenia assumes the six-month co-presidency of the Working Table for Democratization and Human Rights of the Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe
23 March 2003	Referendum held on the entry of Slovenia into the EU and NATO
24 February 2004	The National Assembly ratifies the North Atlantic Treaty, on the basis of which Slovenia becomes a member of the NATO Alliance on 29 March 2004
1 May 2004	Slovenia becomes a full member of the EU, along with nine other countries
13 June 2004	The first elections of Slovene Members to the European Parliament
14 and 15 December 2006	The Council of Europe adopts the 18-month programme of the German, Portuguese and Slovenian presidencies
1 January 2007	Slovenia introduces the common European currency – the Euro

# NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

The National Assembly was constituted for the first time at the session of 23 December 1992 on the basis of the Constitution of the Republic of Slovenia of 1991. The National Assembly is composed of 90 deputies. The term of office of a deputy lasts four years. Elections are called by the President of the Republic. At the first, i.e. constitutive session, the President and Vice-Presidents of the National Assembly are elected, and the Secretary General is appointed.



## The parliamentary term 1992 - 1996

The first parliamentary term of the National Assembly lasted from 23 December 1992, when the National Assembly was constituted for the first time, to autumn 1996. Votes in the parliamentary elections were cast by 85.84% of the electorate and the Liberal Democratic Party of Slovenia (LDS) won the largest number of seats in the parliament, i.e. 22 seats. They were followed by the Slovene Christian Democrats with 15 seats and the Associated List with 14 seats. These parties formed a coalition at the beginning of the term, totalling 51 seats in the parliament.

The seats were also given to the following parties forming the opposition: the Slovene National Party (SNS) holding 12 seats, the Slovene People's Party with 10 seats, the Democrats - the Democratic Party (DS) with 6 seats, the Greens of Slovenia (ZS) with 5 seats, and the Social Democratic Party of Slovenia (SDSS) with 4 seats. The opposition comprised a total of 37 deputies. Eight political parties won seats in the National Assembly. In accordance with the Constitution, two seats were allocated to deputies representing the Italian and Hungarian national communities.

*The main facade accent is on the portal, rising to halfway up the first floor, where its top serves as a balcony. The portal is supported on five pillars tiled with granite from Pohorje. Sculptural compositions by the academy sculptors Karel Putrih and Zdenko Kalin are mounted on the architecture of the entrance.*

The first parliamentary term was marked by changes in the coalition and the opposition, as well as in the composition of deputy groups. By the end of the term, the coalition consisted of only two parties: the Liberal Democratic Party of Slovenia with 23 deputies and the Slovene Christian Democrats with 16 deputies, amounting to 39 deputies altogether. On the opposition side, a new deputy group - the Slovenian National Right (SND) - was formed. The deputies also formed a group of independent deputies, while two deputies remained independent.

Numerous changes in the deputy groups were typical of the first parliamentary term, and so was the formation of certain new deputy groups. Furthermore, changes occurred in the leading positions. Nearing the middle of the parliamentary term, the first President of the National Assembly resigned from his office and was replaced by a new President in September 1994, holding the office until the end of the parliamentary term.

## The parliamentary term 1996 - 2000

On 28 November 1996, following the parliamentary elections held in the beginning of November 1996, the National Assembly was constituted for the second time. The Slovene People's Party (SLS), the Social-Democratic Party (SDS), and the Slovene Christian Democrats (SKD) garnered 45.13% of the vote and 45 seats. The other parties: the Liberal Democracy of Slovenia (LDS), the Associated List of Social Democrats (ZLSD), the Slovene National Party (SNS) and the Democratic Party of Pensioners (DeSUS) received a total of 43.58% of the vote and 43 seats.

*The sculpture for the pillars was provided by the sculptor Zdenko Kalin. The statues depict a safe path to the future, happiness, prosperity and peace.*



The mandate to form a government fell to the president of LDS, which had received the highest relative proportion of votes in the elections. His first proposal that the ruling coalition be formed by four parties (LDS, ZLSD, DeSUS and SNS) did not receive sufficient support. Then, in February 1997, a new coalition was formed, consisting of LDS with 25 deputies, SLS with 19 deputies, and DeSUS with 5 deputies. This coalition numbered 49 deputies. The opposition was made up of the following parties: SDS with 16 deputies, SKD with 9 deputies, ZLSD with 9 deputies, and SNS with 4 deputies, totalling 38 deputies. There was also one independent deputy present in the National Assembly, in addition to the two representatives of national communities.

The above coalition functioned until 8 April 2000, when the proposal on the election of deputy ministers submitted by the President of the Government, which was tied to a vote of confidence in the entire Government, did not pass. Therefore, the procedure to appoint a new President of the Government had been initiated.

The Slovene People's Party (SLS) meanwhile joined with the Slovene Christian Democrats (SKD), and the united SLS+SKD party subsequently signed an agreement with the Social-Democratic Party (SDS) to form a new coalition and put forward their candidate to fill in the position of the President of the Government. On 3 May 2000, the new President of the Government was elected, whereas the ministers were appointed on 7 June that year. The coalition comprised 44 deputies, the opposition 41, and three deputies acted as independent deputies. The new government coalition also brought about changes in the leading positions of the National Assembly, followed by the election of three new Vice-Presidents. The two Vice-Presidents of the SLS+SKD party formed a new party thereupon, the New Slovenia (NSi).

# The parliamentary term 2000 - 2004

The National Assembly was constituted for the third time at the session held on 27 October 2000. At the third elections to the National Assembly on 15 October 2000, LDS again received the greatest share of votes (36%) and 34 seats. Being the party with relative majority, it formed a coalition consisting of the following parties: LDS with 34 deputies, ZLSD with 11 deputies, and SLS+SKD with 9 deputies. Likewise, DeSUS, having 4 deputies, signed the agreement on cooperation with the governing coalition, so that the coalition numbered a total of 58 deputies. The opposition consisted of SDS with 14 deputies, New Slovenia (NSi) with 8 deputies, the Slovene National Party (SNS) with 4 deputies, and the Youth Party of Slovenia with 4 deputies, amounting altogether to 30 deputies.

The third term of the National Assembly was marked by changes in the composition as well. In 2001, an opposition deputy left his deputy group and continued to perform his function as an independent deputy. In September 2004, when the Youth Party of Slovenia (SMS) ceased to function, two members joined him. Nevertheless, a deputy group of unaffiliated deputies was not formed, since they had chosen to carry on as independent deputies. The SLS+SKD group functioned under such name until 15 March 2002, when it renamed itself SLS deputy group. Similarly, on 19 September 2003, the Social-Democratic Party was renamed the Slovenian Democratic Party. Also the composition of the coalition as well as of the opposition was slightly altered during this term. The number of coalition deputies was downsized by ten at the end of the parliamentary term. The deputy group SLS (the former SLS+SKD) ceased to function as a coalition deputy group immediately after the resignation of its ministers in April 2004.

# The parliamentary term 2004 - 2008

After the parliamentary elections held in October 2004, the National Assembly was constituted on 22 November 2004. The Slovenian Democratic Party (SDS) won the elections with 29% of the vote and 29 seats. The winning party formed the governing coalition together with the 9 deputies of New Slovenia (NSi), the Slovene People's Party (SLS) with 7 deputies, and the Democratic Party of Pensioners (DeSUS) with 4 deputies, totalling 49 deputies. At the beginning of the parliamentary term, the following parties formed the opposition: the Liberal Democracy of Slovenia (LDS), which took the second place at the parliamentary elections and garnered 23 seats by receiving 22% of the vote, the Social Democrats (SD - known as ZLSD until 2 April) with 10 seats, and the Slovene National Party (SNS) with 6 seats. The opposition thus numbered 39 deputies in total.

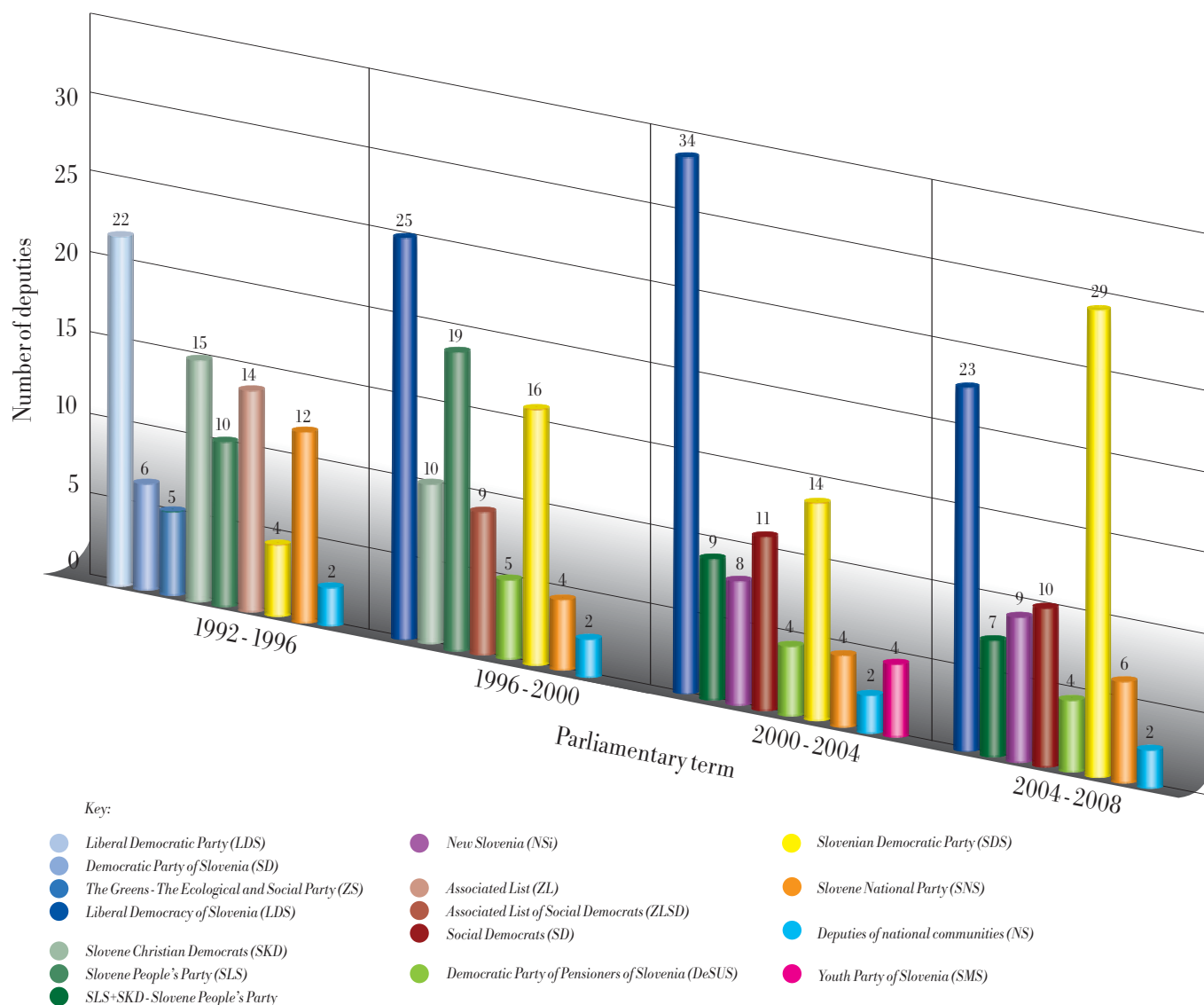
Approximately in the middle of the parliamentary term (in the beginning of 2007), changes in the composition occurred. First, one deputy left the LDS deputy group and was followed by 11 more later on. On 15 July 2007, the LDS deputy group consisted of 11 members. The deputies who left the LDS organised themselves in different ways. Seven deputies now belong to the deputy group of Independent Deputies; four joined the SD deputy group, whereas the remaining one continues to perform his parliamentary activities as an independent deputy. The SD deputy group thus increased by 4 deputies and on 15 July 2007 comprised 14 deputies altogether.

*In the centre of the entrance hall is the sculpture Wrestling Boys, a work by the sculptor France Kralj from the year 1942, depicting verbal quarrels among deputies and deputy groups.*



## National Assembly - by deputy groups

The number of deputies by deputy groups in individual parliamentary terms



The figure shows the composition of the National Assembly by deputy groups in individual parliamentary terms, namely at the beginning of the term. Since certain parties changed their name and structure during this 15-year period, the following explanations might prove useful:

- The Social Democrats (SD) was known as the Associated List of Social Democrats (ZLSD) until April 2005 and as the Associated List (ZL) until May 1993.
- The Liberal Democracy of Slovenia (LDS) was created in 1994, when the Liberal Democratic Party (LDS), the Democratic Party (DS), the Socialist Party, and the Greens - the Ecological and Social Party joined together. In the parliamentary term 1992-1996, the name LDS refers to the Liberal Democratic Party, while in all successive terms it refers to the Liberal Democracy of Slovenia.
- In April 2000, the Slovene People's Party (SLS) joined with the Slovene Christian Democrats (SKD), together forming the party named SLS+SKD - Slovene People's Party. As presented in the above graphic plot, the name SLS refers to the Slovene People's Party in the parliamentary terms 1992-1996 and 1996-2000, and to SLS associated by SKD in the terms 2000-2004 and 2004-2006.

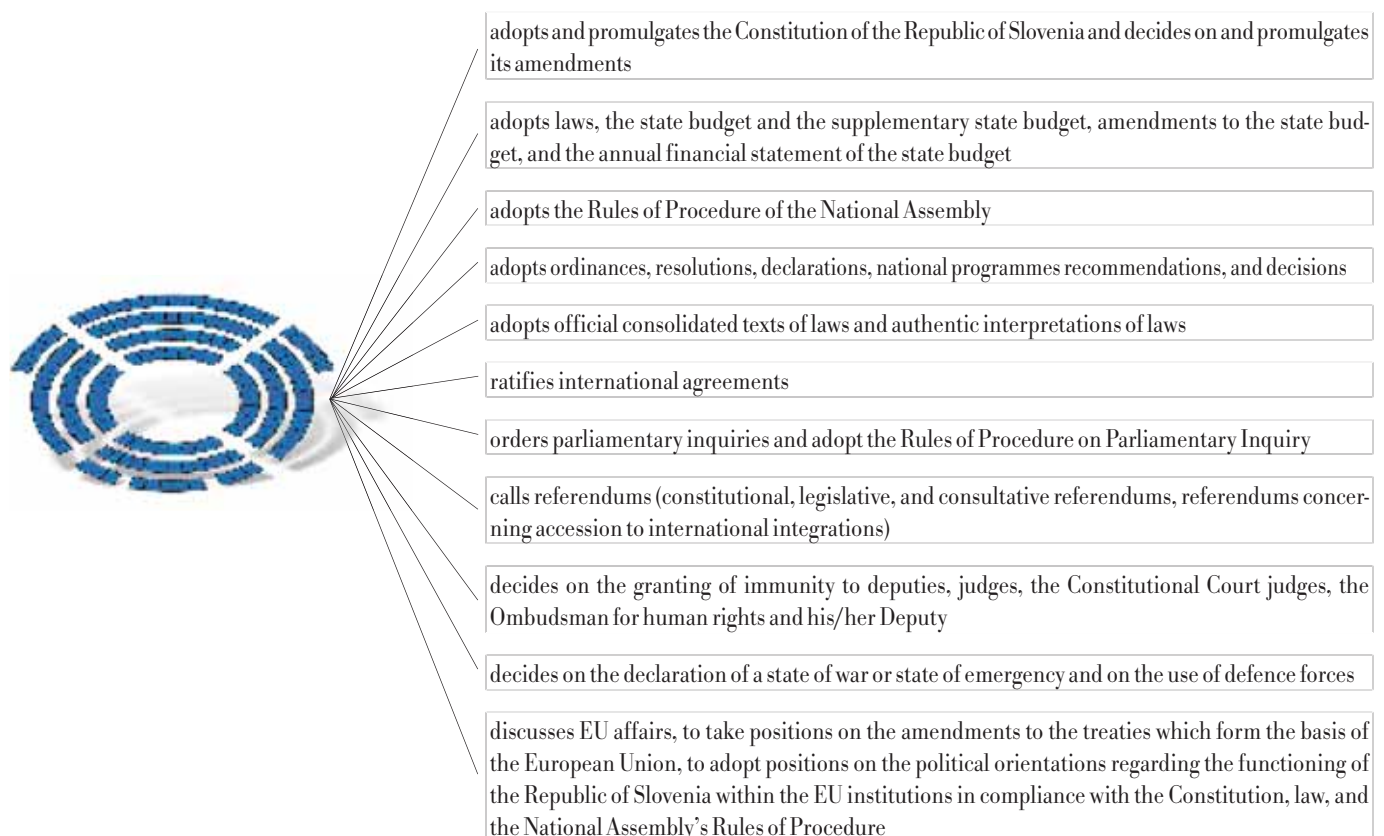
# THE ROLE, TASKS AND COMPETENCES OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

The National Assembly is the main and highest representative and legislative body in the country. In addition to its legislative, control, and electoral function, the Assembly also takes on other functions similar to those performed by the modern democratic parliaments (for example: establishing legitimacy, representing national interests, rationalising and solving conflicts of interest, adopting and monitoring the state budget). The implementation of these has added to a successful placement of the National Assembly among comparable modern democratic parliaments.

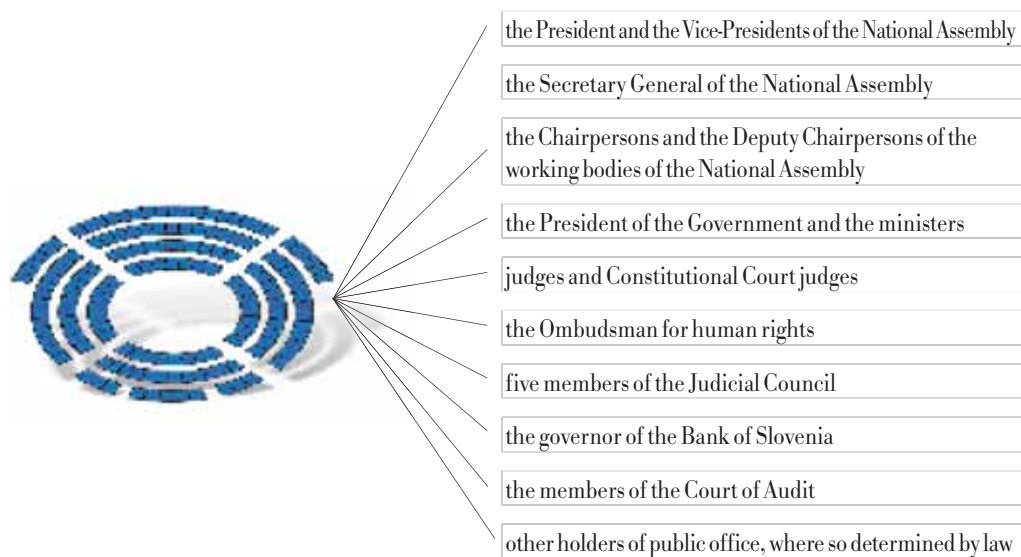


*The lobby of the Large Hall is intended for receptions, protocol meetings and the taking of the oath-of-office by judges. Along the surrounding walls runs a fresco by academic painter Slavko Pengov depicting the history of the Slovene nation from settlement to the renovation period following the Second World War.*

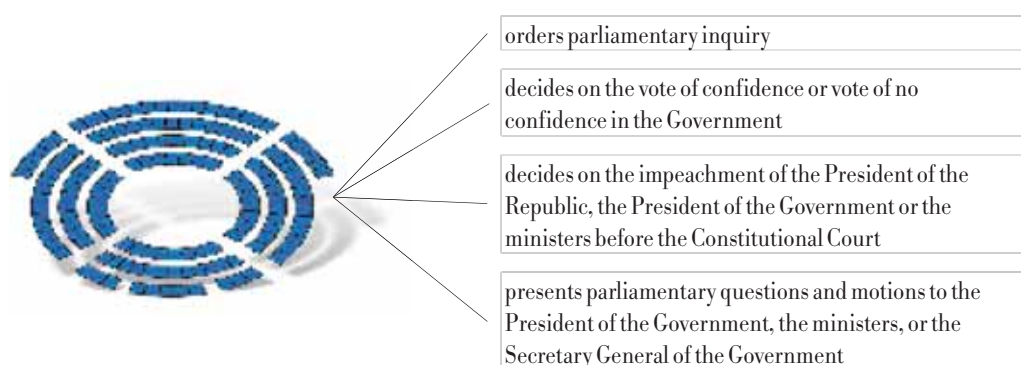
## The National Assembly being the highest representative and legislative body in the country has the following competences



## The electoral function - the National Assembly elects, appoints, and dismisses

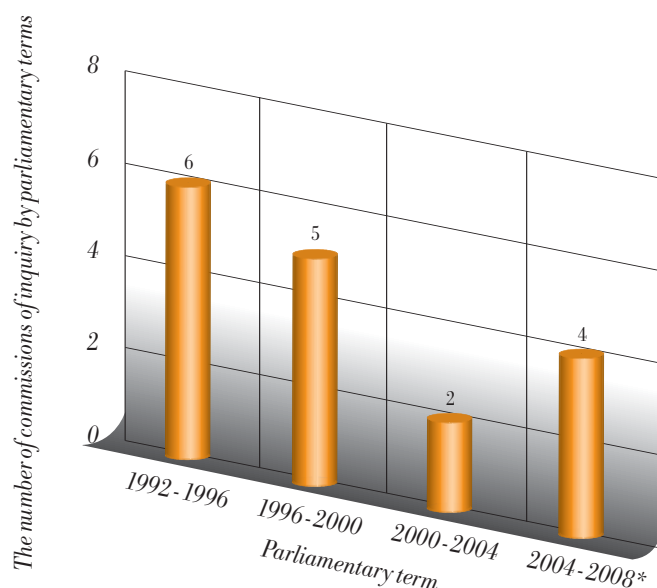


## The control function of the National Assembly



## The commissions of inquiry in the period 1992 - 2007

In the 15 years of its functioning, the National Assembly set up 17 commissions of inquiry.



\* Until 15 July 2007.

# DEPUTIES OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

The National Assembly is composed of 90 deputies - representatives of the citizens of the Republic of Slovenia, elected by universal and equal suffrage in free and direct elections by secret voting. In accordance with special election rules, one deputy from each the Italian and Hungarian national communities is always elected to the National Assembly, thus ensuring a direct representative for each national community, who at the same time have a general representation mandate.



Any citizen who has reached the age of 18 and has appropriate legal capacity can be elected deputy of the National Assembly.

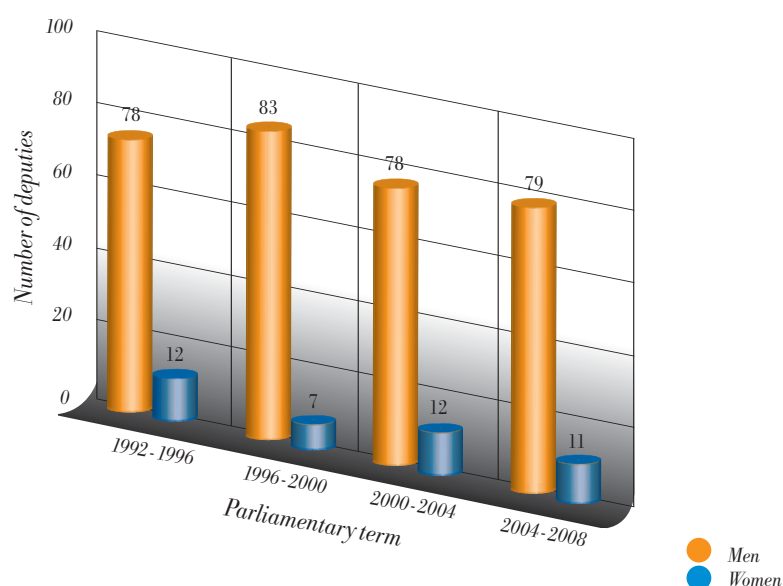
The deputies of the National Assembly are organised in deputy groups. Deputies elected from the same list of candidates and deputies who are members of the same parliamentary party have the right to establish one deputy group only. Also deputies of the Italian and Hungarian national communities have the status of a deputy group, which is provided for in the Rules of Procedure. Moreover, a deputy group of unaffiliated deputies may be established in the National Assembly.

Deputies are representatives of all the people and are not bound by any instructions. The office of deputy is performed on a professional basis, for which reason deputies may not hold other offices or carry out other activities which by law are not compatible with the office of deputy. For example, a deputy may not be a member of the National Council, may not hold office in local community bodies on a professional basis, and may not perform profit-making activities which by law are not compatible with holding public office. If a deputy is elected President of the Government or appointed Vice-President of the Government, minister of state, or state secretary, during the time he holds such office he may not perform the office of deputy. In such case, the office of deputy is performed by a substitute deputy.

*From 2000 onwards, the sessions of the National Assembly are held in the renovated and technically equipped Large Hall with 150 seats, measuring 422 m<sup>2</sup> in area. The circular form of the hall is to represent a part of the Slovenian history, illustrating the town notables gathered under the linden tree to form a circle while making important decisions.*

# Composition of the National Assembly in the period 1992 - 2007

## Deputies by gender



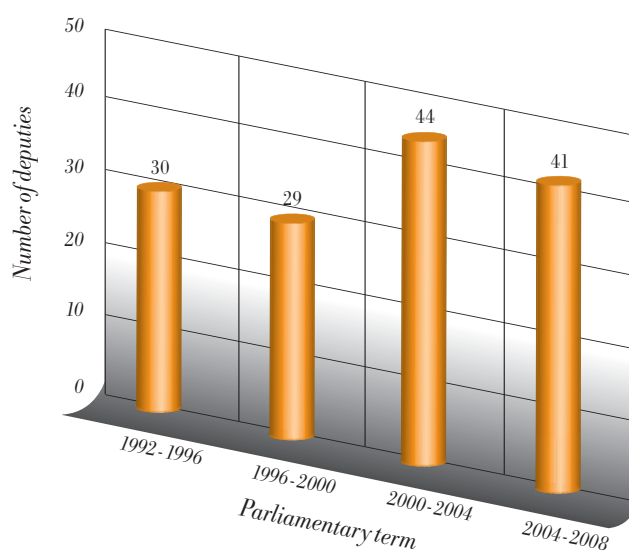
## Deputies by age (at the beginning of the parliamentary term)

PARLIAMENTARY TERM / AGE	1992-1996		1996-2000		2000-2004		2004-2008		AVERAGE	
	number	%	number	%	number	%	number	%	number	%
under 30	5*	6	-	-	3	3	2	2	3	3
30-39	29	32	25	28	16	18	9	10	20	22
40-49	39	43	35	39	34	38	44	49	38	42
50-59	11	12	22	24	29	32	22	24	21	23
60-69	6**	7	6	7	5	6	13	14	8	8
70 and above	-	-	2	2	3	3	-	-	1	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>100</b>

\* Aged 20-29 years

\*\* Aged 60 and above

## Re-elected deputies



### Notes:

The data on the number of re-elected deputies always refer to the previous parliamentary term. Data for the first parliamentary term 1992-1996 refer to the deputies of all three chambers of the Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia, elected at democratic elections in April 1991.

# The status of the deputies of the national communities

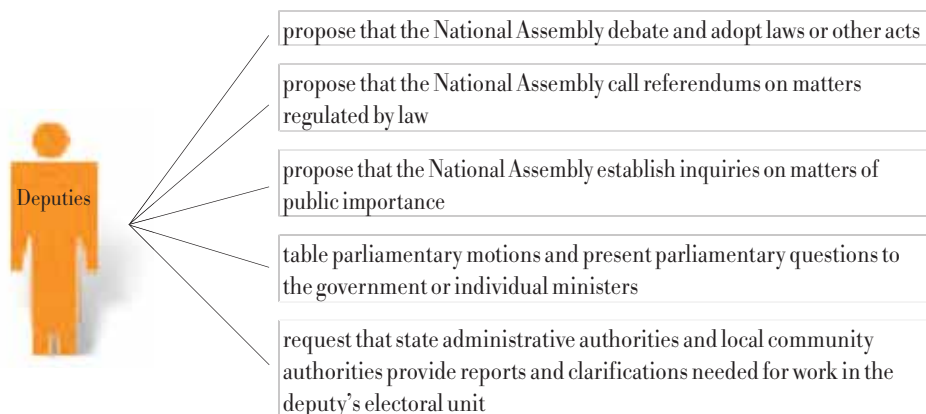
The Constitution of the Republic of Slovenia guarantees extensive protection of the rights of the autochthonous Italian and Hungarian national communities. The deputies of both national communities have the right to speak and table motions, initiatives, questions, and other submissions in Italian or Hungarian, respectively. The deputies of the Italian and Hungarian national communities automatically together have the status of a deputy group in the National Assembly and have the right to decide themselves which working bodies they would like be members of.

The Rules of Procedure of the National Assembly provide for the Commission for National Communities as a standing commission, which, within the scope of its competences, can discuss all issues regarding the status and rights of the Italian and Hungarian national communities, and can propose measures on the exercise of the rights of both national communities. The Constitution also stipulates that laws which concern the exercise of the constitutionally provided rights and position of the national communities exclusively may not be adopted without the consent of the deputies representing these communities.

## The rights and duties of deputies

Deputies have the right and duty to attend the sessions of the National Assembly and its working bodies of which they are members, and to participate in the work and decision-making of the National Assembly and its working bodies. Within the scope of their activities, individual deputies have a number of rights and duties which make possible the efficient performance of the office of deputy.

### The rights of deputies



In accordance with the law and the Rules of Procedure of the National Assembly, deputies can exercise some rights only in smaller or larger groups. As such, a group of at least three deputies has the right to form a deputy group, while a group of at least ten deputies has the right to table a proposal to elect a new President of the Government, or to submit an interpellation in the National Assembly with respect to the work of the Government or an individual minister. Moreover, a group of at least thirty deputies has the right to require that the National Assembly call referendums on matters regulated by law or that it establish inquiries on matters of public importance.

# PUBLIC INFLUENCE ON NATIONAL ASSEMBLY'S COMPOSITION AND WORK

In accordance with the Constitution, in Slovenia power is vested in the people. Citizens exercise this power directly through elections, consistent with the principle of the separation of legislative, executive, and judicial powers. The relation between the National Assembly, as the legislative branch of power, and the citizens is arranged so as to enable the citizens to monitor the work of the National Assembly in various ways and influence its decisions.

## The election of deputies

Citizens influence the composition of the National Assembly most directly at (regular or early) parliamentary elections when they confer a mandate on the deputies and the political parties in which deputies generally unite.

## The public nature of the work of the National Assembly

While the National Assembly is in term, the public nature of its work is one of its most important principles as it ensures that citizens are informed about the work of parliament. The work of the National Assembly is open to the public unless the National Assembly or its working bodies discuss confidential issues. The National Assembly regularly informs the public of its work through a variety of public announcements, through reports on the work of the National Assembly and its working bodies, through the gazette of the National Assembly, through other publications, and finally, through its internet site. The adopted laws and other legal acts of the National Assembly are published in the Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia.

Furthermore, representatives of the media may attend sessions of the National Assembly as well as of its working bodies. Representatives of the media have access to information and documentary material, draft acts of the National Assembly, and all notices, gazettes, and other publications issued by the National Assembly. The Public Relations and Media Office of the National Assembly is responsible for informing the public and cooperating with journalists.

Citizens may attend sessions of the National Assembly in person as space allows (the balcony of the Large Hall has a seating capacity of 106) and in such manner as does not obstruct the work of the deputies. Organised groups of visitors also often visit the National Assembly.

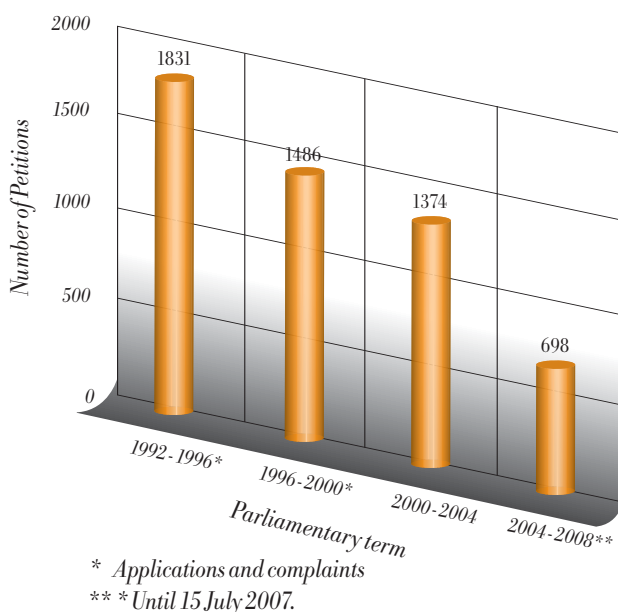
*Opposite the Large Hall on the first floor of the National Assembly there are three reception rooms. The Large Reception Room, equipped with interpreter's booths, is intended for the reception of larger delegations and the sessions of working bodies of the National Assembly. The Small Reception Room is used for protocol receptions of Slovene and foreign guests. The third reception room has been rearranged into a small press conference room, where press statements are issued.*



# The right to present petitions

The Constitution guarantees each citizen the right to file petitions and to pursue other initiatives of general significance. Petitions, applications, and complaints addressed to the National Assembly are examined by the Commission for Petitions, Human Rights, and Equal Opportunities. The Commission then discusses the petitions and other proposals submitted by citizens, informs the competent National Assembly working bodies of such, and proposes suitable measures for the effective realization of the rights, obligations, and legal interests of citizens.

**In the period from 1992 to 2007, 5389 petitions had been filed**



*On 25 April 2006 the Chair of the Commission for Petitions, Human Rights and Equal Opportunities Majda Potrata welcomed the delegation of the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI).*

## Public initiative and referendum

Citizens may propose an amendment to the Constitution or a law directly to the National Assembly.

A proposal to begin proceedings to amend the Constitution may be presented by no less than 30,000 voters (also, by no less than 20 deputies of the National Assembly or by the Government). The proposal must state where and how the Constitution should be amended and give reasons for the amendment. The proposal must include a draft of the constitutional act amending the Constitution and the signatures of no less than 30,000 voters.

A draft law may be proposed to the National Assembly by no less than 5,000 voters. The draft must contain the elements stipulated in the Rules of Procedure of the National Assembly (the title of the law, an introduction, the text of the articles, and a statement of reasons). The proposal must include the signatures of no less than 5,000 voters. In the parliamentary term 1992 - 1996, five draft laws were tabled by public initiative, four of them being based directly on the Constitution, even before the Referendum and Public Initiative Act entering into force. No draft law was tabled by public initiative in the following years, namely until 2005 and 2006 when two drafts were submitted altogether.

Each voter, political party, or other association of citizens may present an initiative to the electorate regarding the submission of a proposal to initiate the procedure for amending the Constitution or for submitting a draft law. The proposer informs the President of the National Assembly of the initiative. The period for collecting signatures from voters in support of the proposal is 60 days. The representative of the voters sends the proposal to initiate the procedure for amending the Constitution or the draft law to the National Assembly.

## The Referendum and Public Initiative Act governs the following types of referendums:



referendum on constitutional amendments: the electorate decides on the confirmation of a constitutional amendment that has been adopted by the National Assembly, before the amendments are promulgated

legislative referendum: the electorate decides on the confirmation of a law that has already been adopted by the National Assembly before its promulgation (a subsequent referendum); based on the last amendment, the Act no longer provides for the electorate to decide in advance on matters governed by law (early referendum)

referendum concerning accession to international integrations: at the referendum under Article 3a of the Constitution of the Republic of Slovenia, the electorate decides on the transfer of the exercise of part of the sovereign rights to international organisations, or decides on the entry into a defence alliance which is governed by a treaty

consultative referendum: the National Assembly may call a consultative referendum on matters within its competence which are of general public importance, but it is not bound by the result of such a referendum; a consultative referendum may be called for the entire territory of the state or for a specific, narrower area with regard to matters that concern only the population of such area

The conditions and procedures to call a referendum are stipulated by law. The referendum and Public Initiative Act was adopted in 1994.

## The referendums and public initiative in the period 1994 - 2007

REFERENDUMS PURSUANT TO THE REFERENDUM AND PUBLIC INITIATIVE ACT IN THE PERIOD 1994 - 2007	NUMBER OF MOTIONS OR REQUESTS	NUMBER OF REFERENDUMS HELD
Early legislative referendum	43	5
Subsequent legislative referendum	14	3
Referendum under Article 3a of the Constitution of the Republic of Slovenia	2	2
Motion not tied to a specific draft law	4	-

## Deputy offices

The influence of citizens on the work of deputies is also enabled through the establishment of deputy offices in their electoral units. In their offices deputies have regular fixed office hours at which time they are available to their constituents, who can then directly explain their views and address various comments and initiatives to the deputy.

# SESSIONS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

The National Assembly performs its primary mission at regular and extraordinary sessions. The National Assembly Rules of Procedure regulate the procedure of notification of the convening and the conduct of a session.

Regular sessions are convened during the regular annual terms of the National Assembly (during the spring term from 10 January to 15 July and during the autumn term from 1 September to 20 December), as a general rule every last week in the month.

An extraordinary session is convened by the President of the National Assembly at the request of at least one quarter of the deputies or of the President of the Republic no later than 15 days from the tabling of the request. An extraordinary session may be convened by the President of the National Assembly on the proposal of the Government or pursuant to a decision by the Council of the President of the National Assembly in the event of issues that can not be postponed and can not be placed in time on the agenda of a regular session.

At the beginning of the session the National Assembly always determines or approves the agenda. The draft agenda is drawn up by the President of the National Assembly upon consultation with the Council in accordance with the work programme of the Assembly, the decisions of the National Assembly, or the requests of the proposers of the convening of the session. The National Assembly may not decide on matters concerning which the appropriate materials have not previously been sent or delivered to deputies or regarding which the working body responsible of the National Assembly has not adopted a position.

Sessions of the National Assembly are chaired by the President of the National Assembly or by a nominated Vice-President. Deputies are obliged to attend sessions. The President of the Government and the ministers may also attend sessions in accordance with their rights and duties as determined by the Constitution, the law, and the Rules of Procedure of the National Assembly. The President of the National Assembly may also invite other people to attend sessions. The work of the National Assembly is open to the public, unless some issue of a confidential nature is being discussed. Furthermore, in certain cases the National Assembly may decide to discuss an issue at a closed session. In this case the National Assembly decides who, in addition to the deputies, may attend the session or part of a session closed to the public.

The National Assembly adopts valid decisions if a majority of all deputies are present at the session. It adopts decisions by a majority of votes cast by those deputies present, except where a different majority (e.g., two-thirds) is provided by the Constitution, by law, or by the Rules of Procedure. The National Assembly, as a general rule, decides by public vote. Regarding certain matters (e.g., some elections, appointments, and dismissals) it decides by secret ballot.

Tape recordings or verbatim records are made of the work at sessions of the National Assembly. In September 1999, the National Assembly was among the first parliaments in Europe to enable the sessions of the National Assembly to be broadcast live on the internet. The Radio and Television Corporation of Slovenia Act adopted in 2005 provides for the introduction of a third television channel to be intended solely to provide live transmission of sessions of the National Assembly. Currently the national television streams live only some sessions of the National Assembly, and regularly broadcasts parliamentary questions and motions. Other sessions of the National Assembly and its working bodies are recorded and may be viewed via the cable network.

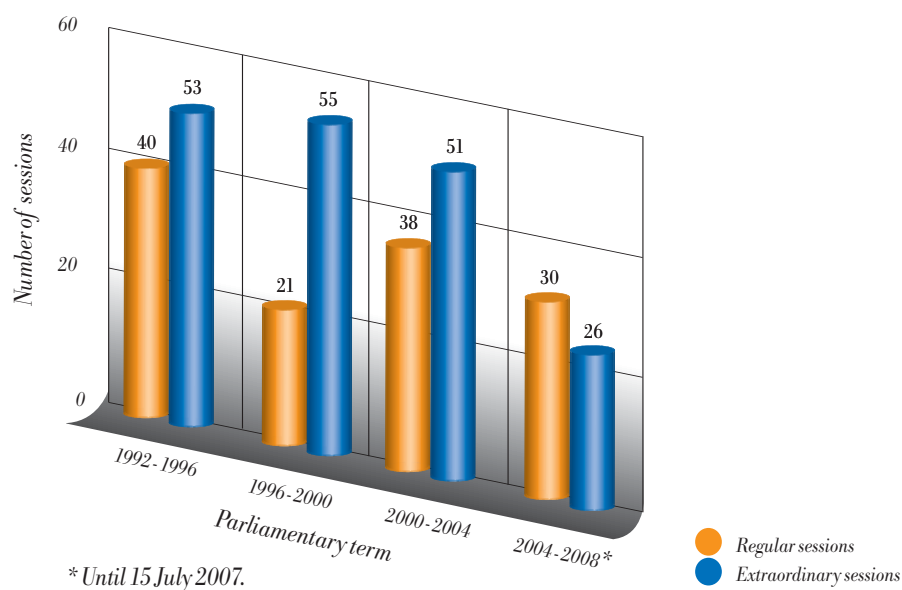


*The National Assembly at a plenary session*

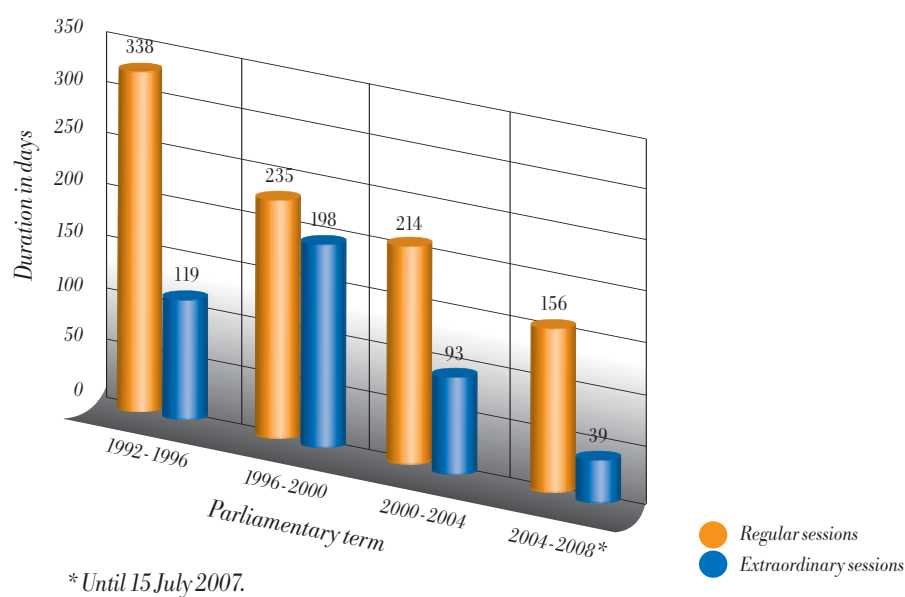
*When the sessions are open to public they may also be viewed directly from the balcony of the Large Hall, with 106 seats arranged in three rows. There are also four interpreters' booths on the balcony intended for the radio and television reporters when the sessions of the National Assembly are broadcast live.*



**In the period 1992 - 2007, the National Assembly held 314 sessions, of which 129 were regular and 185 extraordinary sessions.**



**In the period 1992 - 2007, the sessions amounted to a total of 1392 days, of which regular sessions lasted 943 days altogether and extraordinary 449 days.**



The amended Rules of Procedure of 2002 introduced restrictions as to the speaking time at sessions in the National Assembly.

# LEGISLATIVE PROCEDURE

A law may be proposed by the Government, a deputy, the National Council, or at least 5,000 voters.

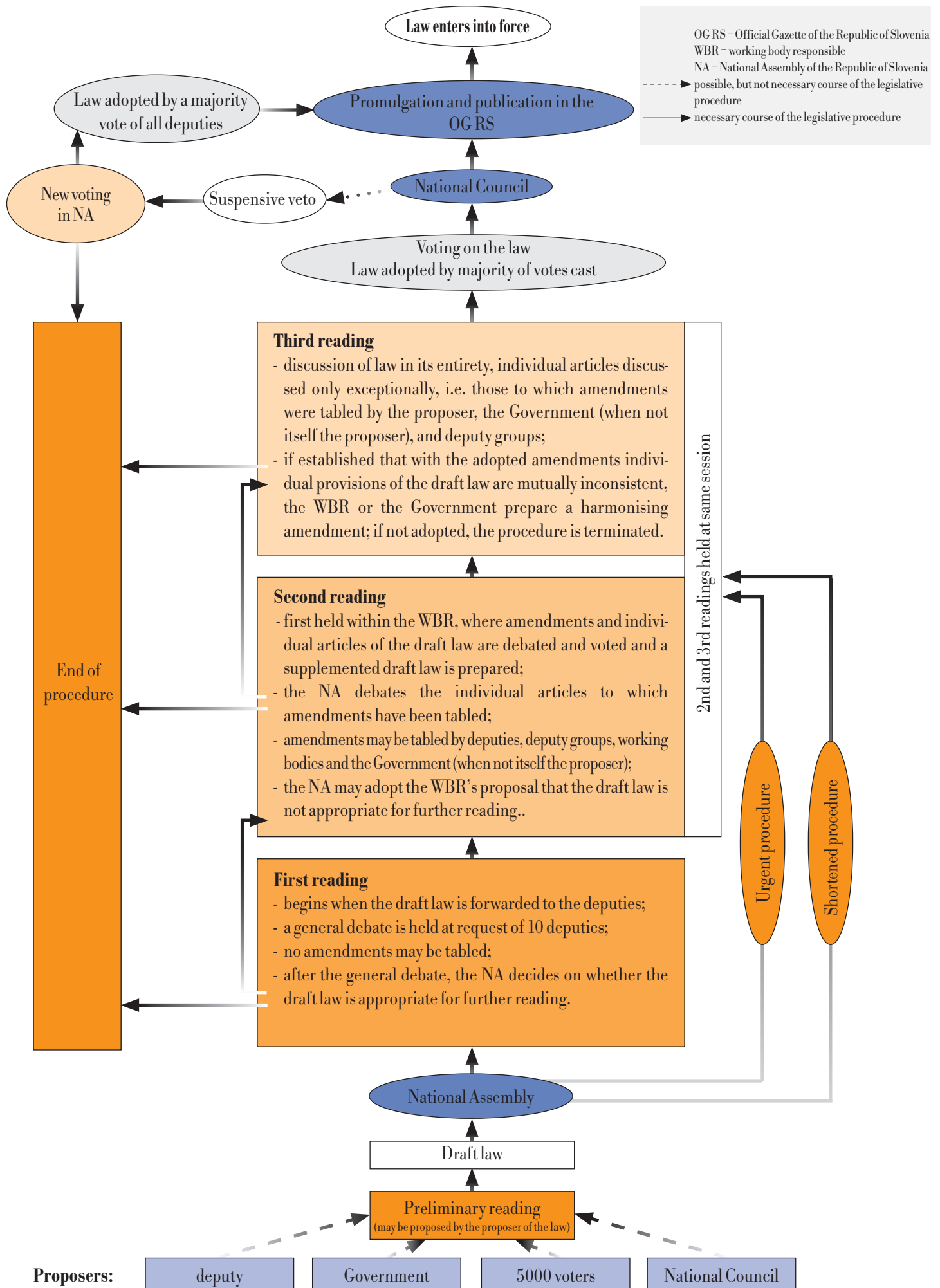
The legislative procedure generally has three stages (readings), while it is also possible in particular cases for a law to be adopted by urgent procedure or by shortened procedure. There are three types of legislative procedure:

- regular procedure - three readings of the draft law, i.e. the first reading which is held at the plenary session as a general debate only at the request of at least 10 deputies, and the second and third readings; in some cases the second and the third readings may be held at the same session;
- the shortened procedure - in the event of minor amendments to a law, the cessation of the validity of an individual law or individual provisions thereof, less demanding harmonisation of the law with other laws or with the law of the European Union, and amendments to laws related to proceedings before or decisions of the Constitutional Court,
- urgent procedure - if the adoption of the law is urgent due to the interests of the security, defence of the state, elimination of the consequences of natural disasters, or in order to prevent consequences regarding the functioning of the state that would be difficult to remedy. Such procedure may only be proposed by the Government.

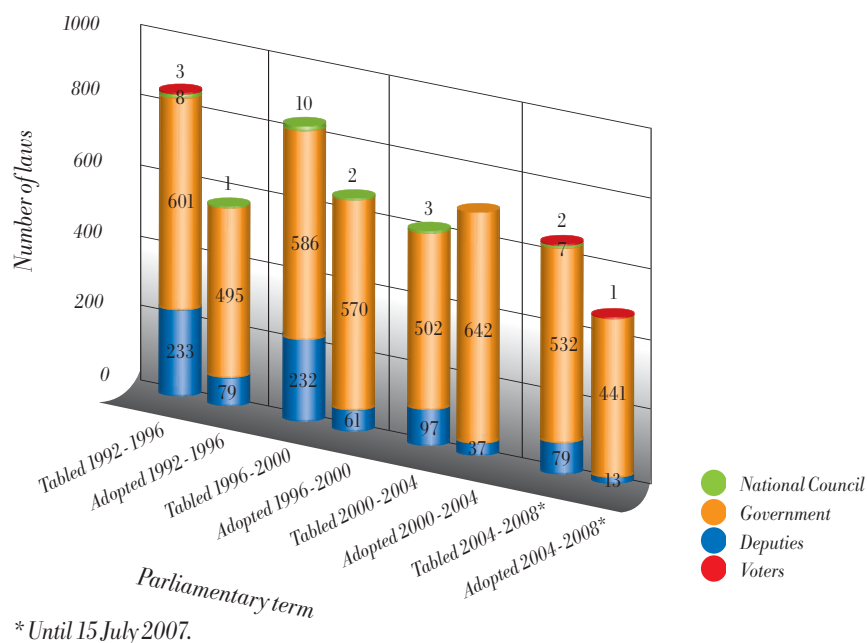
In the shortened and urgent procedures, no general debate is held. The second and third readings are held at the same session, and there is also a different regulation for time limits determined for individual activities.



*Meetings of working bodies are held in the Large Salon and in the meeting rooms on Šubičeva Street as well as in the Large and Small Halls on Tomšičeva Street, fully refurbished in 2007.*



**In the period 1992 - 2007, 2895 laws were tabled and 2342 adopted.**

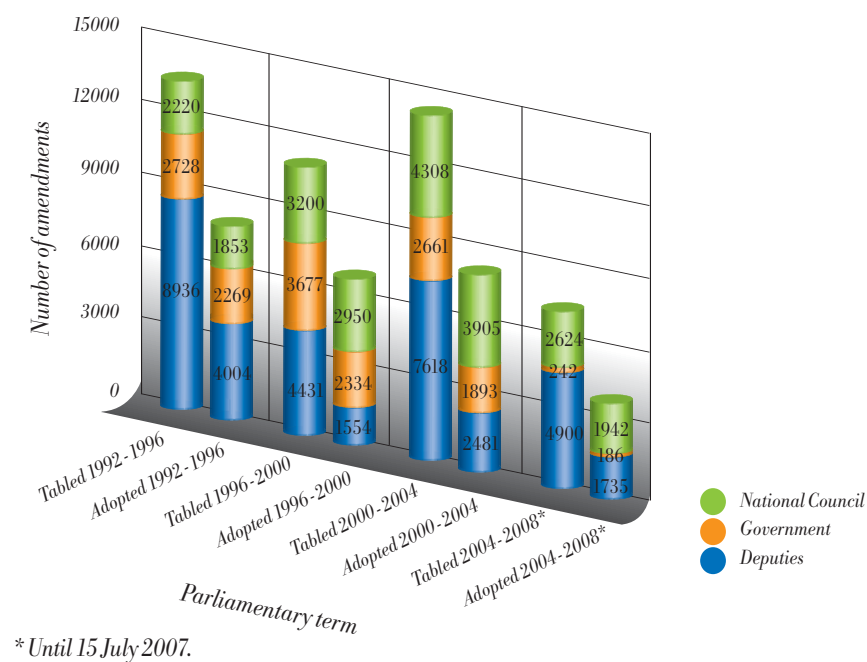


The deputies tabled 641 laws (190 were adopted), the Government 2221 (2148 were adopted) and the National Assembly 28 laws (3 were adopted).

**In the period 1992 - 2007, 47545 amendments were tabled and 27106 adopted.**

Amendments may be tabled by deputies or other authorised proposers to request an amendment to individual articles or the title of the draft law or other act. Amendments may also be used to propose new articles or delete individual articles.

The deputies tabled 25885 amendments (9774 were adopted), the Government 9308 (6682 were adopted) and the National Assembly working bodies 12352 (10650 were adopted).



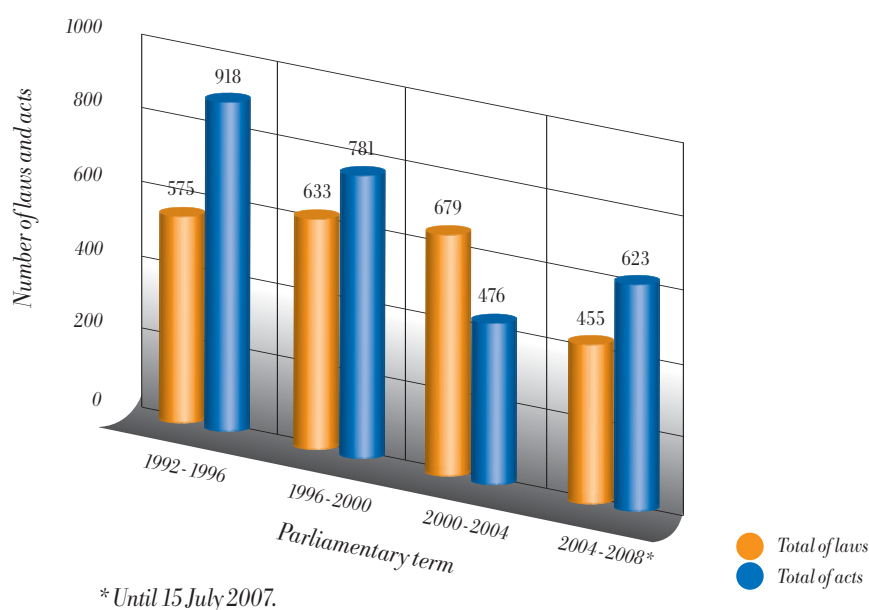
# Consolidated text of a law

Following any amendment to a law, an unofficial consolidated text of the law is drawn up and made available on the National Assembly's website. The National Assembly may also decide to draw up an official consolidated text of the law, which is made available on the National Assembly's website and published in the Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia.

## The procedures for adopting other acts of the National Assembly

The Rules of Procedure of the National Assembly also determine the procedures for ratifying treaties and for adopting other acts within the competences of the National Assembly. The ratification of treaties is carried out in accordance with the provisions of the Rules of Procedure applying to the urgent legislative procedure. The Rules of Procedure of the National Assembly and the amendments thereto are adopted *mutatis mutandis* in accordance with the provisions regulating the legislative procedure. Special procedures are provided for the adoption of the state budget, the supplementary state budget, and amendments to the state budget. Specific procedures also apply to the adoption of constitutional acts amending the Constitution, whereby two thirds of all deputies of the National Assembly must vote in favour of the adoption of a constitutional amendment. Other acts of the National Assembly (ordinances, resolutions, declarations, recommendations, and decisions) are discussed and adopted by a one-phase procedure.

**In the period 1992 - 2007, 2342 laws and 2798 acts were adopted (5140 in total)**



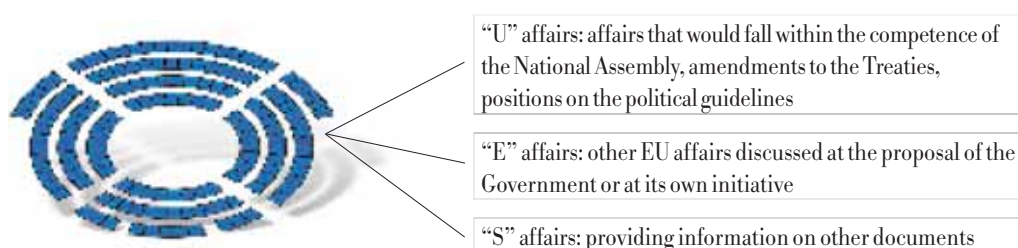
# THE PROCEDURE FOR ADOPTING EU AFFAIRS

The functioning of Slovenia within the EU is regulated by Article 3a of the Constitution of the Republic of Slovenia, which provides the conditions and procedure for transferring the exercise of part of Slovenia's sovereign rights to international organisations, the referendum concerning the transfer of part of its sovereign rights to international organisations, defines the relationship between the Slovenian legal order and EU law, and defines the relationship between the National Assembly and the Government in the conditions of EU membership.

Relations between the National Assembly and the Government in the procedures for the adoption of the legal acts and decisions in the European Union are regulated in detail by the Act on Cooperation between the National Assembly and the Government regarding EU Affairs (in force since 23 April 2004) and the Rules of Procedure of the National Assembly.

The Government represents the Republic of Slovenia concerning EU affairs and implements its positions in EU institutions independently, while the National Assembly exercises its control in accordance with the Constitution and the law.

## The structure of EU affairs in the National Assembly



In the National Assembly, EU affairs fall under the competence of the Committee on EU Affairs which deals with all EU-related issues, except for the Foreign and Security Policy which falls under the competence of the Committee on Foreign Policy. In discussing EU affairs, an important role is played by the working bodies responsible which deal with a particular issue in terms of its content and forward their opinions and positions to the two competent committees.

## Work of the competent working bodies and of the working bodies responsible (EU affairs) in the period 2004 - 2008\*

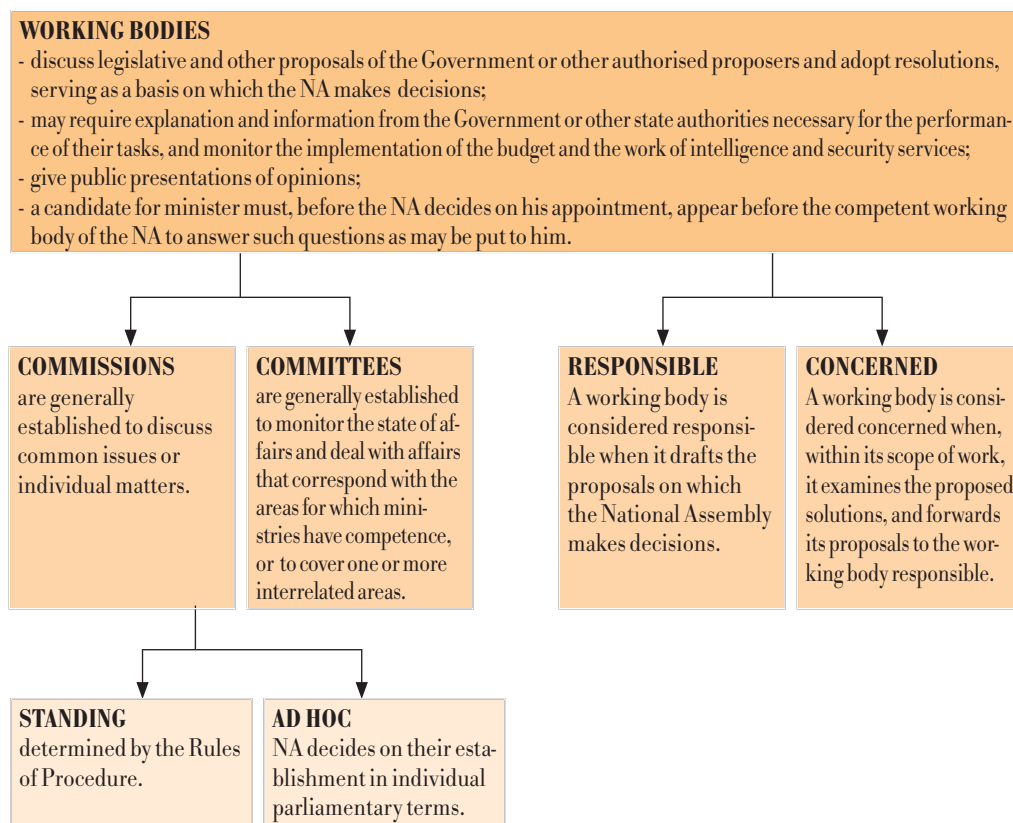
WORKING BODY	EU AFFAIRS			
	"U" affairs	"E" affairs	"S" affairs	EU affairs discussed
Committee on EU Affairs	74	17	161	252
Committee on Foreign Policy	6	-	25	31
Working bodies responsible - together	78	5	33	116
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>291</b>	<b>399</b>

\* Until 15 July 2007.



# WORKING BODIES OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

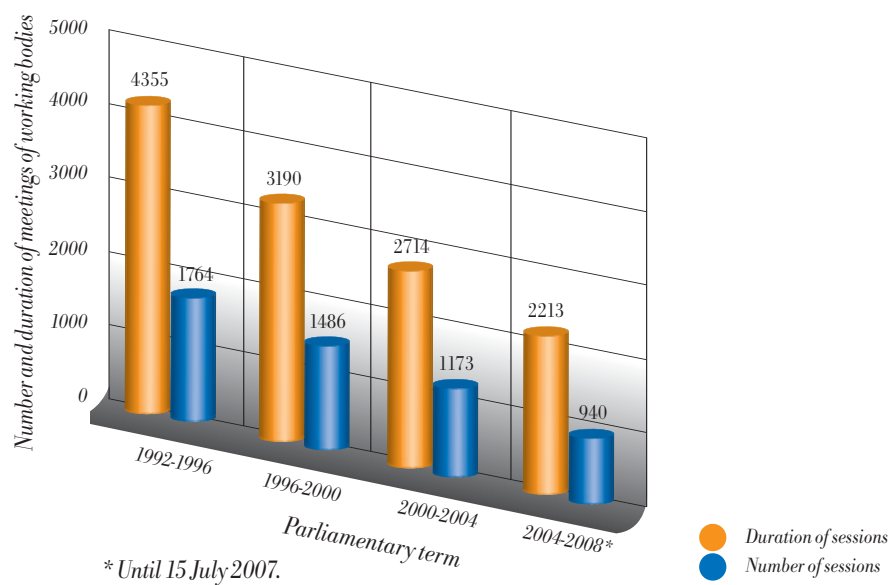
Working bodies are established in the National Assembly to monitor the state of affairs in individual areas, to prepare policy decisions in such areas, to formulate positions on particular issues, and to discuss draft laws and other acts of the National Assembly. The President of the National Assembly allocates issues to the working bodies responsible, designates the working bodies responsible and decides on disputes between the working bodies regarding competence. The working bodies of the National Assembly include commissions and committees.



The composition of working bodies and the positions within them are determined in proportion to the number of deputies in the individual deputy groups, whereby the ratio between the deputies of the governing coalition and the deputies of the opposition is taken into particular account. As a general rule, each deputy group is guaranteed at least one seat in every working body. If the chairperson of a working body belongs to one of the deputy groups of the ruling coalition, the office of deputy chairperson will as a general rule be held by a member of an opposition deputy group, and vice versa. The Chairs, Deputy Chairs and most members of the Commission for Public Finance Control and of the Commission for Supervision of the Work of the Intelligence and Security Services belong to opposition deputy groups.

Since the adoption of new Rules of Procedure in 2002, the working bodies have been playing a more important role in the legislative procedure. The second reading of a draft law is first held within the working body responsible which draws up the supplemented draft law, i.e. it includes all adopted amendments in the draft law intended for the second reading. The supplemented draft law is an integral part of the report of the working body responsible prepared for the second reading of the draft law at the session of the National Assembly.

**In the period 1992 - 2007, there were 5363 sessions of working bodies that lasted 12472 hours altogether.**



*The meeting of the  
Commission for Budgetary  
and Other Public Finance  
Control (21 September 2006)*



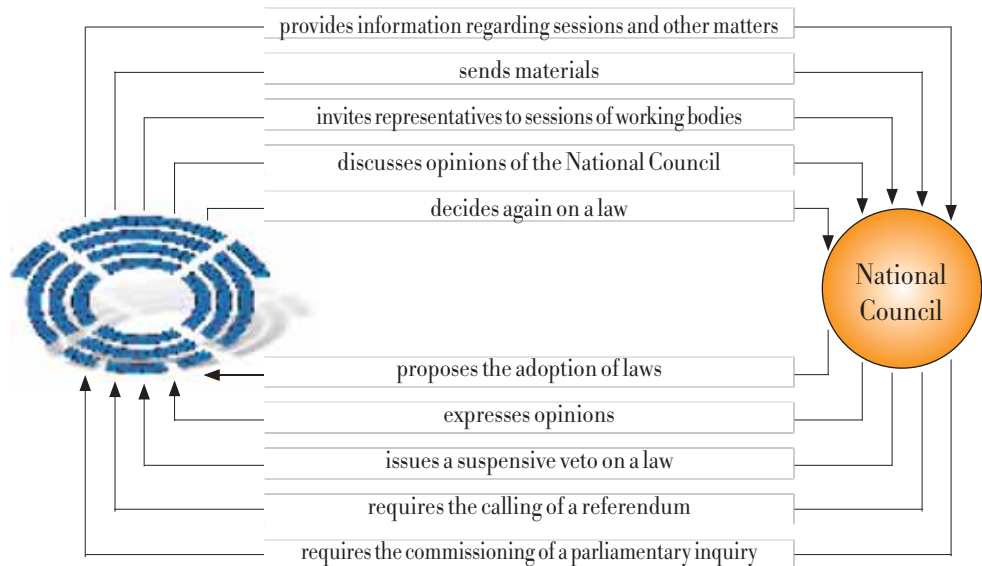
# THE RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHER STATE OUTHORITIES

The constitutional system is based on the principle of the separation of powers between the legislative (the National Assembly and the National Council), the executive (the President of the Republic and the Government), and the judiciary (the Constitutional Court and the courts).

## The relationship between the National Assembly and the National Council

The Constitution defines the National Council as the representative body for social, economic, professional, and local interests. In accordance with its competences, the National Council is closely connected with the legislative activities of the National Assembly.

When required by the National Assembly, the National Council must express its opinion on an individual matter.

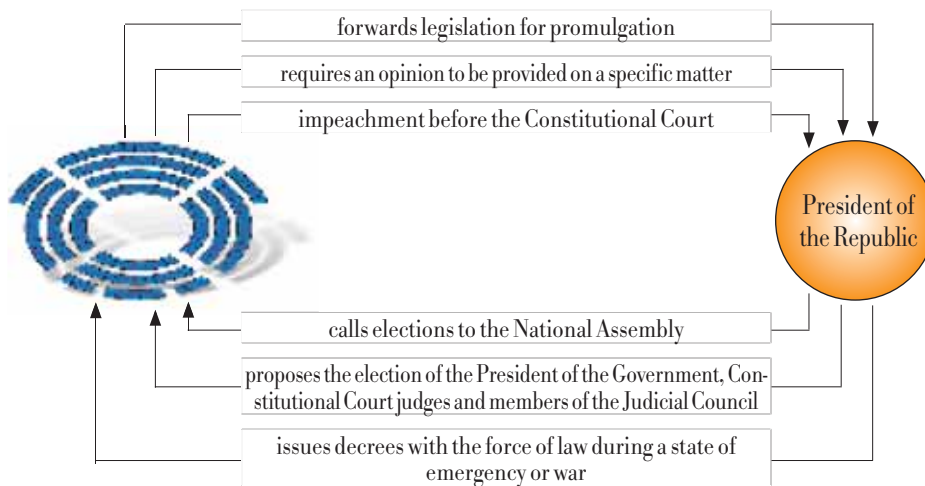


*The Small Hall where the sessions of the National Council, public presentations of opinions, colloquiums and other events are held measures 262 m<sup>2</sup> and has 120 seats. It slopes downwards as in an amphitheatre towards the President's desk. There are galleries on either side of the hall for the press and the public.*



# The relationship between the National Assembly and the President of the Republic

The constitutional powers of the President of the Republic are primarily of a representative and protocol nature. Some of the powers of the President of the Republic (especially to make proposals) are connected with the work of the National Assembly, although the President may directly influence important decisions taken by the legislature only in exceptional cases and to a relatively small extent.



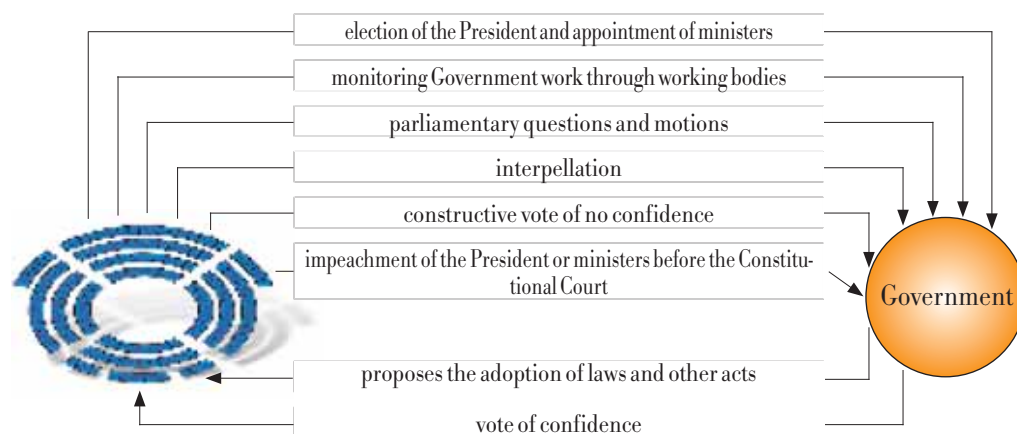
## The relationship between the National Assembly and the Government of the Republic of Slovenia

### Constitutional position of the Government

In accordance with the Constitution, laws, and other general acts of the National Assembly, the Government determines, directs, and coordinates the implementation of state policies. For this purpose, it issues regulations and adopts other legal, policy, economic, financial, organizational, and other measures necessary to ensure the development of the state and to regulate the state of affairs in all areas of state competency. The Government also has an important role in proposing to the National Assembly the adoption of laws, the state budget, national programmes, and other general acts which determine programmatic and long-term policy guidelines for individual areas within the state competency.

The government has no delegated legislative powers, meaning that under no circumstances may it adopt acts with the force of law. Therefore, by means of decrees, it may only regulate and define in more detail specific relations determined by laws and other acts adopted by the National Assembly, in accordance with the purpose and criteria of the law. On the basis of an explicit legal authorisation, the Government regulates by decree also the manner in which the rights and obligations of Slovene citizens and other persons are exercised, while its internal and other matters are regulated by its rules of procedure and decisions.

The Government, comprising the President of the Government and the ministers, is the bearer of executive power and the highest body of the state administration. Within the scope of their powers, the Government and individual ministers are independent and accountable to the National Assembly.



## The election of the President of the Government, appointment and dismissal of ministers

The President of the Government is elected by the National Assembly. The election of the President of the Government generally takes place when a new National Assembly convenes following parliamentary elections (since the incumbent President of the Government automatically ceases to hold office at that time), and may also take place if the President of the Government ceases to hold office for some other reason (e.g. due to his resignation or the adoption of a vote of no confidence in the government).

A particularity of the Slovenian constitutional order is that the ministers are appointed and dismissed by the National Assembly on the proposal of the President of the Government. When a new government is being formed following parliamentary elections and the constituting of the National Assembly or for some other reason (e.g. following a vote of no confidence in the government being passed), the newly-elected President of the Government proposes a list of ministers to the National Assembly, which contains a statement of reasons concerning each candidate.

Prior to appointment, the proposed ministers must appear before the competent working body of the National Assembly (established for the same fields of work as those regarding which they are to perform the office of minister) and answer its questions.

## Forms of supervision and establishing the accountability of the Government by the National Assembly

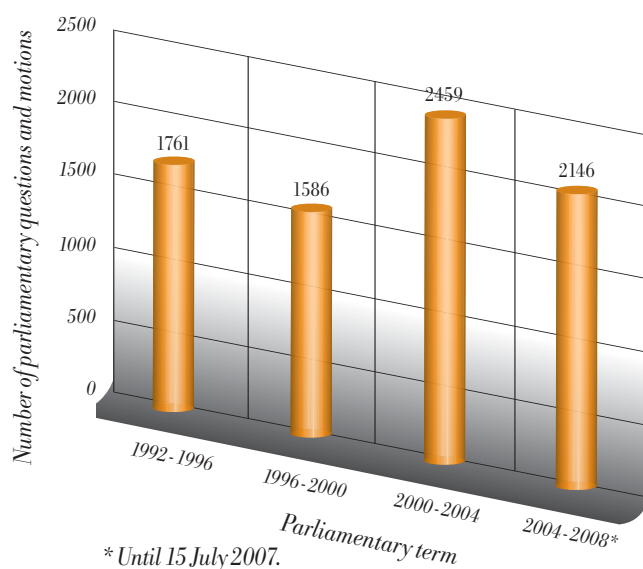
### Parliamentary questions and motions

Presenting parliamentary questions and motions is one of the most important rights pertaining to deputies, representing a form of supervision of the work of the Government and individual ministers.

A special item on the agenda of a session of the National Assembly is reserved once a month for parliamentary questions. During the discussion of parliamentary questions, the representatives of the Government (President of the Government, the ministers, and the Secretary General of the Government) must be present at the session of the National Assembly. In determining the order of parliamentary questions, the person chairing the session of the National Assembly ensures that deputies of different deputy groups be given the floor, whereby the first four questions are asked by opposition deputies and a deputy of the ruling coalition. If the first four questions relate to the formulation or implementation of Government policy, they are answered by the President of the Government. The Government representative answers parliamentary questions asked orally at the same session, while if due to time limitations, absence, or some other reason, an immediate answer is not possible, a written answer must be sent within 30 days, which is published in the gazette of the National Assembly. If the deputy who asked the question declares that he requires an oral answer, the question is placed on the agenda of the next session of the National Assembly. Whenever a parliamentary question or motion is presented in writing, the Government representative answers such parliamentary question or motion in writing within 30 days. If the deputy is not satisfied with the answer, he may require that such answer be supplemented.



**In the period 1992 - 2007, 7952 parliamentary questions and motions were tabled.**



Most parliamentary questions and motions were presented in the parliamentary term 2000-2004 (2459) and in the current term (2146).

## **Working bodies of the National Assembly and the Government**

The various competences of the National Assembly working bodies also include monitoring and supervising the work of the Government and individual ministries, monitoring the state of affairs in individual fields, and formulating positions on particular issues. A working body may ask the Government and other state authorities as well as public institutes, public enterprises, and public funds founded by the state to provide explanations and information which it needs to perform its tasks. The working bodies of the National Assembly debate the various legislative and other proposals of the Government, and adopt resolutions on such, which form the basis on which the National Assembly makes decisions. In this process, working bodies may notify ministers and other representatives of the Government of any deficiencies or errors. Furthermore, the working bodies hold hearings of the candidates for ministers.

## Vote of no confidence in the Government

The Constitution provides that the National Assembly may, upon a motion submitted by no less than ten deputies and adopted by a majority vote of all deputies, elect a new President of the Government (a constructive vote of no confidence). By such vote the sitting President of the Government is deemed to be dismissed from office, but he and the ministers of his government continue to carry out their respective duties until a new government is sworn into office.

## Vote of confidence in the Government

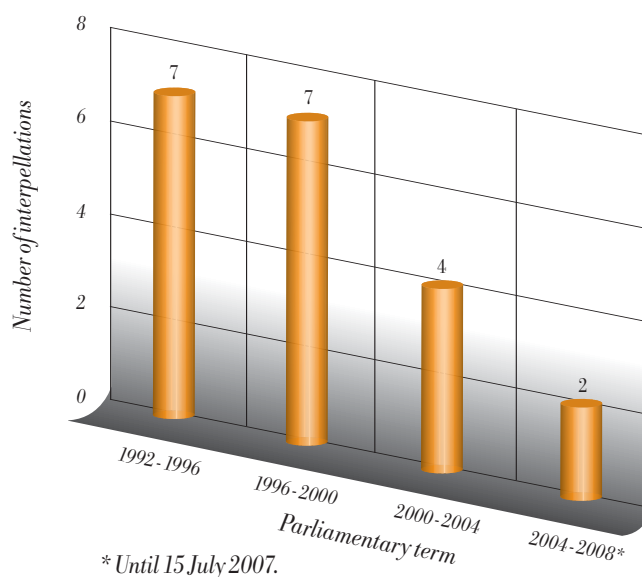
The President of the Government may require the National Assembly to vote on a motion of confidence in the Government. If such a vote does not receive the support of a majority of all deputies, the National Assembly must, within 30 days, either elect a new President of the Government or express its confidence in the incumbent President of the Government in a new vote. If it fails to do so, the President of the Republic dissolves the National Assembly and calls new elections.

The President of the Government may tie the issue of confidence to the adoption of a law or to some other decision of the National Assembly. If this vote does not pass, it is deemed to be a vote of no confidence in the government.

## Interpellations

Interpellations are an important form of the National Assembly's control of the work of the Government. During fifteen years of operation of the National Assembly, 20 interpellations were submitted, most of them during the first two terms.

### The number of interpellations submitted per individual parliamentary term



## Impeachment of the President of the Government and ministers

The National Assembly may bring impeachment charges against the President of the Government or any minister of state before the Constitutional Court due to a violation of the Constitution or law committed during the performance of his office. Such a proposal may be submitted by a group of no less than ten deputies of the National Assembly. The proposal to initiate such proceedings must, as a rule, be discussed at the next session of the National Assembly, which must reach a decision on the proposal within sixty days of receiving it.

If the National Assembly adopts a decision on impeachment, the President of the National Assembly sends the decision to the Constitutional Court and to the President of the Government or to the minister against whom the impeachment was presented. The Constitutional Court decides on an impeachment. It may also decide, after receiving the impeachment decision of the National Assembly, that the President of the Government or minister may temporarily not perform office until it has decided on the impeachment. The Constitutional Court either decides that the impeachment is justified, or it dismisses the charges.

# The relationship between the National Assembly and the Constitutional Court

The Constitutional Court has numerous powers connected with the work of the National Assembly. The primary tasks of the Constitutional Court are to decide on the conformity of laws with the Constitution as well as on the conformity of regulations with the Constitution, laws, and ratified treaties and with the general principles of international law.



*Oath-of-office by a  
constitutional judge  
(2 February 2007)*

# INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

The National Assembly has special competences in the field of foreign policy, as it determines general guidelines regarding foreign policy. Furthermore, the National Assembly ratifies treaties, whereby the working body responsible for international relations must confirm such treaties before they are signed. This working body has further special competences; for instance, it interviews candidates for posts of ambassador of the Republic of Slovenia to foreign countries and approves the opening of new diplomatic-consular missions of the Republic of Slovenia.



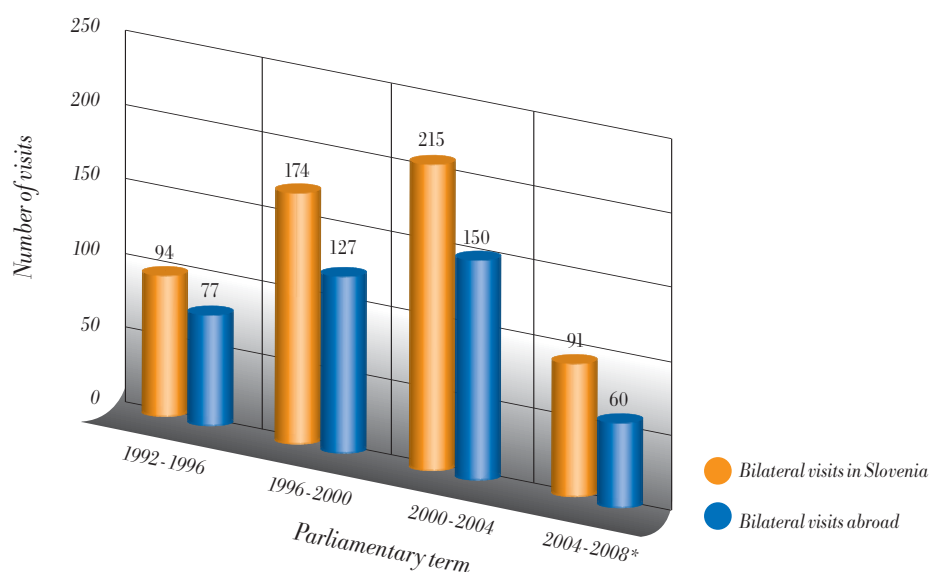
*On the occasion of their visit on 4 July 2002, the Spanish King Juan Carlos and Queen Silvia met with the President of the National Assembly and representatives of deputy groups.*

*The President of the United States of America William Jefferson Clinton visited the National Assembly during his two-day visit to Slovenia between 21 and 22 June 1999.*



The National Assembly has exceptionally diverse bilateral and multilateral international activities, including cooperation with the representative bodies of other countries, international parliamentary institutions, international organisations and bodies, organisations of Slovene national minorities, organisations of Slovene emigrants, and other.

**In the period 1992 - 2007, 988 bilateral visits took place,  
574 of them in Slovenia and 414 abroad**



\* Until 15 July 2007.

The National Assembly establishes permanent delegations to international parliamentary institutions and international organisations which participate in the following international parliamentary assemblies and institutions:

- Euro-Mediterranean Parliamentary Assembly,
- Interparliamentary Union,
- Parliamentary Conference of the Central European Initiative,
- Parliamentary Assembly of Mediterranean States,
- NATO Parliamentary Assembly,
- Parliamentary Assembly of the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe – OSCE,
- Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe,
- Western European Union Assembly – the European Interparliamentary Security and Defence Assembly.



*The visit of the Speaker of the Hungarian Parliament to the National Assembly (12 October 2007)*

The National Assembly has also established 51 “friendship groups”, which are considered to be an informal form of activity for deputies. Such groups are formed with regard to the interests of the deputies to cooperate with the country in question. The purpose of such groups is to encourage bilateral cooperation with countries where such cooperation is not especially developed on the level of the President of the National Assembly or its working bodies.

*The presentation of the German Presidency of the EU Council to the Committee on EU Affairs and the Committee on Foreign Policy (10 January 2007)*



# Cooperation of the National Assembly within the scope of EU membership

With Slovenia's membership in the EU, the cooperation of the National Assembly and its working bodies with the institutions of the EU, especially the European Parliament, has been strengthened even further.

The delegation of the Committee on EU Affairs regularly attends meetings of national parliamentary working bodies competent for EU affairs and the European Parliament. These meetings are held twice per year in the framework of the Conference of Community and European Affairs Committees (COSAC).

The deputies of the National Assembly also regularly attend meetings which are organized jointly by the European Parliament and the national parliament of the country holding the rotating presidency of the EU, on the level of both the presidents of the parliaments and that of particular working bodies. The deputies participate, when invited, also in the regular sessions of the committees of the European Parliament.

*The President of the European Commission José Manuel Barosso addressed the deputies of the National Assembly (2 March 2006).*

Slovenia is actively involved in preparations to assume the presidency of the EU Council in the first half of 2008. To this end, an intensive exchange of information, experience, proposals on the future functioning of the EU and the respective role of Slovenia between the National Assembly and parliaments of other Member States, and in particular with the EU institutions, is currently taking place.



# Cooperation between the National Assembly and Slovene minorities, emigrants and workers abroad

In the past, Slovenes emigrated to various European countries and in large numbers also to North and South America and Australia. According to estimates, the largest population of Slovenian descent lives in the USA (300,000), Germany (50,000), Canada (30,000), Argentina (35,000), Australia (25,000), Croatia (25,000) and other republics of former Yugoslavia (10,000). There are indigenous Slovene minorities in Austria, Italy, and Hungary and a significant number of Slovenes work abroad temporarily. Given that the population of Slovenia is only approximately two million, the number of Slovenes living elsewhere in the world is relatively large.



In view of the size of the Slovene diaspora, the Constitution specifically determines that the Republic of Slovenia maintains concern for autochthonous Slovene national minorities in neighbouring countries and for Slovene emigrants and workers abroad, and fosters their contacts with the homeland. In connection with such issues, organisations of Slovene national minorities in neighbouring states and of Slovene emigrants and workers abroad may send initiatives and proposals to the National Assembly. Such initiatives and proposals are discussed by the competent working body, which may propose that the National Assembly take a position thereon or adopt an appropriate act.

*Every year at the beginning of July Slovenes from neighbouring and other countries meet at the National Assembly (6 July 2006).*



*Traditional all-Slovene meeting (5 July 2007)*

# COMPOSITION OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

## Deputies of the National Assembly in the first parliamentary term 1992 – 1996

**Notes:**

-in addition to the name and surname of a deputy, the table indicates the affiliation with the deputy group or groups; deputies whose deputy function lasted less than 4 years (e.g. due to a governmental function, resignation or other circumstances), are marked with an asterisk (\*);  
-for deputies who during the parliamentary term left one and joined another deputy group, the table indicates first the group to which the deputy belonged immediately after elections, and then the other groups he/she joined. These are separated by a comma (,);  
-if a deputy group was renamed, the different names of individual deputy groups are linked with the sign (~) and listed in successive order from the first to the current name.

**Notes:**

-the names of the President and Vice-Presidents of the National Assembly, the date of their election and the date of termination of office in the case of early termination of office (e.g. due to resignation, death);  
-the date of appointment of the Secretary General and the date of appointment in datum of the Secretary/Head of the Secretariat for Legislative and Legal Affairs i.e. (since 15 July 2002) the Legislative and Legal Service. Until 2004, also the post of Secretary of the Secretariat for Legislative and Legal Affairs i.e. the Legislative and Legal Service -similarly to the post of Secretary General of the National Assembly -was occupied by an official.

NAME	DEPUTY GROUP
ANTON ANDERLIČ	LDS
MAG. FRANC AVBERŠEK	ZL
ROBERTO BATTELLI	DEPUTY OF THE ITALIAN NATIONAL COMMUNITY
DUŠAN BAVDEK	ZL
IGOR BAVČAR	D, LDS
GABRIJEL BERLIČ	LDS
LJERKA BIZILJ	LDS, SAMOST. POSLANKA
DR. RADO BOHINC *	ZL
DR. FRANC BUČAR	D ~ DS
DR. VIDA ČADONIČ ŠPELIČ*	SKD
FRANC ČERNELIČ	SKD
MAG. DRAGAN ČERNETIČ	LDS
POLONCA DOBRAJC	SNS
DR. JANEZ DRNOVŠEK *	LDS
GEZA DŽUBAN	LDS
BRANE ERŽEN	SNS, INDEPENDENT DEPUTIES GROUP, INDEPENDENT DEPUTY
STANE FRIM	SKD
MIROSLAV GERŽINA	SKD
BENJAMIN HENIGMAN	SKD
FRANC (FERI) HORVAT	ZL
IVO HVALICA	SDSS
JOŽE JAGODNIK	ZL
BRANKO JANC	LDS
JANEZ JANČAR	LDS
JANEZ JANŠA *	SDSS
ZMAGO JELINČIČ	SNS
MIRAN JERIČ	LDS
MAG. JANEZ JUG	LDS, INDEPENDENT DEPUTY
METKA KARNER LUKAČ	SLS
MAG. JANEZ KOCIJANČIČ	ZL
ŠTEFAN KOCIPER	SKD
JOŽEF KOCUVAN	SKD
MAG. JANEZ KOPAČ	LDS
JOŽEF KOPŠE	SNS, SSP
BOJAN KOROŠEC	THE GREENS ~ THE ECOLOGICAL AND SOCIAL PARTY ~ THE GREENS/LDS
DR. MATEJA KOŽUH NOVAK	ZL
DR. DAVORIN KRAČUN *	LDS
DR. LEV KREFT	ZL
RAFAEL KUŽNIK	SNS
SAŠO LAP	SNS, SSP, SND
MAKSIMILJAN LAVRINC	LDS
ANDREJ LENARČIČ	SNS, D ~ DS, SSP

NAME	DEPUTY GROUP
IRENA OMAN	SNS, SSP, SLS
IVAN OMAN	SKD
MAG. IGOR OMERZA	D, LDS
BORUT PAHOR	ZL
TONE PARTLJIČ	LDS
MILOŠ PAVLICA	ZL
BREDA PEČAN	ZL
ANTON PERŠAK	D ~ DS
MATJAŽ PESKAR *	LDS
ALOJZ PETERLE	SKD
PETER PETROVIČ	LDS
JANEZ PODOBNIK	SLS
MARJAN PODOBNIK	SLS
IGNAC POLAJNAR	SKD
MARIJAN POLJŠAK	SNS, SSP, SND, SSP
FRANC POTOČNIK	SLS
VIKA POTOČNIK	LDS
MIRAN POTRČ	ZL
MARIA POZSONEC	DEPUTY OF THE HUNGARIAN NATIONAL COMMUNITY
JANKO PREDAN	THE GREENS ~ THE ECOLOGICAL AND SOCIAL PARTY ~ THE GREENS/LDS
ŽARKO PREGELJ	SLS
JANA PRIMOŽIČ	SKD
MAG. JOŽE PROTNER	LDS
CIRIL PUCKO *	SKD
DR. JOŽE PUČNIK	SDSS
VITODRAG PUKL	SDSS
JOŽEF RAJŠP	SKD
IZIDOR REJC	SKD
DR. CIRIL RIBIČIČ	ZL
MAG. HERMAN RIGELNIK *	LDS
DR. DIMITRIJ RUPEL *	D, LDS
DANICA SIMČIČ	D ~ DS
IVAN SISINGER	ZL
NADA SKUK	SKD
MARJAN STANIČ	SNS, SSP, SND
MAKS SUŠEK	LDS
DR. LEO ŠEŠERKO	THE GREENS ~ THE ECOLOGICAL AND SOCIAL PARTY ~ THE GREENS/LDS
DR. MARJAN ŠETINC	LDS
DRAGO ŠIFTAR	SDSS
JOŽEF ŠKOLČ	LDS
JADRANKA ŠTURM KOCJAN	LDS
DR. PETER TANCING	THE GREENS ~ THE ECOLOGICAL AND SOCIAL PARTY ~ THE GREENS/LDS

NAME	DEPUTY GROUP
JOŽE LENIČ	LDS
FRANCIPOGLAVŠEK	ZL
MIHAELA LOGAR	SLS
ZORAN MADON	SLS
JURIJ MALOVRH	SKD
ŠTEFAN MATUŠ	SNS, SSP, SLS
ALOJZ METELKO	SLS
RUDOLF MOGE	LDS
MIROSLAV MOZETIČ	SKD

NAME	DEPUTY GROUP
ZORAN THALER	LDS
DR. LUDVIK TOPLAK *	SLS
VLADIMIR TOPLER	THE GREENS ~ THE ECOLOGICAL AND SOCIAL PARTY ~ THE GREENS/LDS
IVAN VERZOLAK	SNS; SSP, SND
JANEZ VINDIŠ	SLS, SKD
DR. FRANC ZAGOŽEN	SLS
JAŠA ZLOBEC L. *	LDS
DR. JANEZ ZUPANEC	LDS

**Key:**  
LDS – Liberal Democratic Party  
SKD – Slovene Christian Democrats  
ZL – Associated List  
SNS – Slovene National Party  
SLS – Slovene People's Party  
D - Democrats ~ DS - Democratic Party of Slovenia  
THE GREENS - Greens of Slovenia ~ THE GREENS - Ecological and Social Party ~ THE GREENS/LDS  
SDSS – Social and Democratic Party of Slovenia  
SND - Slovenian National Right

## LEADING OFFICIALS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY in the first parliamentary term 1992-1996

<b>PRESIDENT</b>	MAG. HERMAN RIGELNIK from 23 December 1992 to 14 September 1994 JOŽEF ŠKOLČ from 16 September 1994
<b>VICE-PRESIDENTS</b>	MIROSLAV MOZETIČ from 23 December 1992 DR. LEV KREFT from 24 December 1992 VLADIMIR TOPLER, M.D. from 23 March 1993
<b>SECRETARY GENERAL</b>	BOGDAN BIŠČAK
<b>SECRETARY OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY</b>	JOŽICA VELIŠČEK
<b>SECRETARY OF THE SECRETARIAT FOR LEGISLATIVE AND LEGAL AFFAIRS</b>	MILAN BAŠKOVIČ

*Deputies and Secretary of the National Assembly at the end of the first parliamentary term (1992-1996)*



# Deputies of the National assembly of the Republic of Slovenia in the second parliamentary term 1996-2000

NAME	DEPUTY GROUP
ANTON ANDERLIČ	LDS
JOŽE AVŠIČ	LDS
JOSIP BAJC	SLS, SLS+SKD
ROBERTO BATTELLI	DEPUTY OF THE ITALIAN NATIONAL COMMUNITY
IGOR BAVČAR *	LDS
MAG. ANTON BERGAUER *	SLS, SLS+SKD
RICHARD BEUERMANN	LDS
SAMO BEVK	ZLSD
IVAN BOŽIČ	SKD, SLS+SKD
STANISLAV BRENČIČ	SLS, SLS+SKD
MAG. FRANC BUT *	SLS, SLS+SKD
JANEZ CIMPERMAN *	SDS
DR. VIDA ČADONIČ ŠPELIČ*	SKD, SLS+SKD
FRANC ČEBULJ	SDS
VLADIMIR ČELIGOJ	SDS
ANTON DELAK	DeSUS
VINCENCIJ DEMŠAR	SKD, SLS+SKD
POLONCA DOBRAJC	SNS, INDEPENDENT DEPUTY
METOD DRAGONJA *	LDS
DR. JANEZ DRNOVŠEK *	LDS
GEZA DŽUBAN	LDS
ANDREJ FABJAN	SLS, SLS+SKD
DR. SLAVKO GABER *	LDS
MARIO GASPARINI	LDS
ANDREJ GERENČER	LDS
LEON GOSTIŠA *	SLS, SLS+SKD
BENJAMIN HENIGMAN	SKD, SLS+SKD
FRANC (FERI) HORVAT	ZLSD
PETER HRASTELJ	SLS, SLS+SKD
DR. HELENA HREN VENCELJ	SKD, SLS+SKD
IVO HVALICA	SDS
JOŽEF JAGODNIK *	ZLSD
ROMAN JAKIČ *	LDS
BRANKO JANC	LDS
JANEZ JANŠA *	SDS
FRANC JAZBEC	SDS
ZMAGO JELINČIČ	SNS
MIRAN JERIČ	LDS
JOŽEF JEROVŠEK	SDS
AURELIO JURI	ZLSD
JELKO KACIN	LDS
FRANC KANGLER	SLS, SLS+SKD
MIRKO KAPLJA *	LDS

NAME	DEPUTY GROUP
JOŽE LENIČ *	LDS
PETER LEŠNIK *	SNS
ZORAN LEŠNIK	DeSUS
MIROSLAV LUCI	SDS
JURIJ MALOVRH	SKD, SLS+SKD
ALEKSANDER MERLO	LDS
JANEZ MEŽAN	SDS
RUDOLF MOGE	LDS
MIROSLAV MOZETIČ *	SKD, SLS+SKD
JOŽE MOŽGAN	SLS, SLS+SKD
DARINKA MRAVLJAK	SLS, SLS+SKD
EDA OKRETIČ SALMIČ	DeSUS, INDEPENDENT DEPUTY
BORUT PAHOR	ZLSD
ANTON PARTLJIČ	LDS
SAŠO PEČE *	SNS
JANEZ PER *	SLS+SKD
RUDOLF PETAN	SDS
ALOJZ PETERLE *	SKD, SLS+SKD
PETER PETROVIČ*	LDS
JANEZ PODOBNIK	SLS, SLS+SKD
MARJAN PODOBNIK *	SLS, SLS+SKD
FRANC POTOČNIK	SLS, SLS+SKD
MIRAN POTRČ	ZLSD
MARIA POZSONEC	DEPUTY OF THE HUNGARIAN NATIONAL COMMUNITY
JAKOB PRESEČNIK	SLS, SLS+SKD
CIRIL PUCKO	SKD, INDEPENDENT DEPUTY
FRANC PUKŠIČ	SDS
CIRIL METOD PUNGARTNIK *	LDS
IZIDOR REJC	SKD, SLS+SKD
DR. CIRIL RIBIČIČ	ZLSD
FRANCI ROKAVEC	SLS, SLS+SKD
NIKOLAJ ROŽIČ *	LDS
PAVEL RUPAR	SDS
MAG. MARIJAN SCHIFFRER	SKD, SLS+SKD
NADA SKUK *	SKD, SLS+SKD
CIRIL SMRKOLJ *	SLS, SLS+SKD
BORIS SOVIČ *	ZLSD
STANA STOPAR *	LDS
JOŽEF ŠKOLČ *	LDS
BOGOMIR ŠPILETIČ	SDS
JOŽEF ŠPINDLER	LDS
DAVORIN TERČON	LDS
ZORAN THALER *	LDS

NAME	DEPUTY GROUP
IVAN KEBRIČ	DeSUS
BRANKO KELEMINA	SDS
ŠTEFAN KLINC	SLS+SKD
BOJAN KONTIČ	ZLSD
MAG. JANEZ KOPAČ	LDS
JOŽEF KOŠIR	LDS
ALOJZ KOVŠE*	LDS
JANEZ KRAMBERGER	SLS, SLS+SKD
MAJDA ANA KREGELJ ZBAČNIK	SDS
RAFAEL KUŽNIK	SNS
MAKSIMILJAN LAVRINC *	LDS
DARJA LAVTIŽAR BEBLER	LDS

NAME	DEPUTY GROUP
BRANKO TOMAŽIČ	SLS, SLS+SKD
HERMANTOMAŽIČ	LDS
VILI TROFENIK	SLS, SLS+SKD
JANKO VEBER	ZLSD
ALOJZ VESENJAK	SLS, SLS+SKD
IRENA VIRANT *	SDS
DR. FRANC ZAGOŽEN	SLS, SLS+SKD
DR. JOŽE ZAGOŽEN *	SDS
BOGOMIR ZAMERNIK	SDS
JOŽEF ZIMŠEK	LDS
MAG. FRANC ŽNIDARŠIČ	DeSUS

**Notes:**  
On 6 June 2000, the SLS deputy group and the SKD deputy group joined together to form SLS+SKD Slovene People's Party deputy group.

**Key:**  
LDS - Liberal Democracy of Slovenia  
SDS - Social-Democratic Party  
ZLSD - Associated List of Social Democrats  
SLS+SKD - SLS +SKD Slovene People's Party  
SLS - Slovene People's Party  
DeSUS - Democratic Party of Pensioners of Slovenia  
SMS - Youth Party of Slovenia  
SNS - Slovene National Party

## LEADING OFFICIALS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY during the second parliamentary term 1996-2000

<b>PRESIDENT</b>	JANEZ PODOBNIK, M.D., from 3 December 1996
<b>VICE-PRESIDENTS</b>	ZORAN THALER from 3 December 1996 to 27 February 1997 BORUT PAHOR from 3 December 1996 to 23 April 1997 DR. HELENA HREVENČELJ from 23 December 1996 to 23 April 1997 ANDREJ GERENČER from 23 April 1997 MIROSLAV LUCI from 23 April 1997 EDA OKRETIČ SALMIČ from 29 May 1997
<b>SECRETARY GENERAL</b>	JOŽICA VELIŠČEK
<b>SECRETARY OF THE SECRETARIAT FOR LEGISLATIVE AND LEGAL AFFAIRS</b>	MILAN BAŠKOVIČ

*Deputies and Secretary General of the National Assembly at the end of the second parliamentary term (1996-2000)*



# Deputies of the National Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia in the third parliamentary term 2000-2004

NAME	DEPUTY GROUP	NAME	DEPUTY GROUP
ANTON ANDERLIČ	LDS	MAG. JANEZ KRAMBERGER	SLS+SKD, SLS
SONJA AREH LAVRIČ	SNS	LEOPOLD (LEO) KREMŽAR	LDS
JOŽE AVŠIČ	LDS	MAKSIMILJAN LAVRINC	LDS
DR. ANDREJ BAJUK	NSi	DARJA LAVTIŽAR BEBLER *	LDS
BOGDAN BAROVIČ	SNS	FRANC LENKO *	DeSUS
ROBERTO BATTELLI	DEPUTY OF THE ITALIAN NATIONAL COMMUNITY	PETER LEVIČ	SMS, INDEPENDENT DEPUTY
IGOR BAVČAR *	LDS	LIDIJA MAJNIK	LDS
DR. JOŽEF BERNIK	NSi	JURIJ MALOVRH	SLS+SKD, SLS
RICHARD BEUERMANN *	LDS	IVAN MAMIČ	NSi
SAMO BEVK	ZLSD	DORIJAN MARŠIČ	LDS
DR. RADO BOHINC *	ZLSD	JERICA MRZEL *	ZLSD
IVAN BOŽIČ	SLS+SKD, SLS	ALEKSANDER MERLO*	LDS
DR. MIHAEL BREJC *	SDS	RUDOLF MOGE	LDS
STANISLAV BRENČIČ	SLS+SKD, SLS	BORUT PAHOR *	ZLSD
ANTON BUTOLEN *	LDS	ANTON (TONE) PARTLJIČ	LDS
JANEZ CIMPERMAN	SDS	IRMA PAVLINIČ KREBS	LDS
FRANCE CUKJATI	SDS	BREDA PEČAN *	ZLSD
FRANC ČEBULJ	SDS, INDEPENDENT DEPUTY, SLS	SAŠO PEČE	SNS
VOJKO ČELIGOJ	DeSUS	RUDOLF PETAN	SDS
DR. LUCIJA ČOK *	LDS	ALOJZ PETERLE *	NSi
SILVA ČRNUCELJ	ZLSD	JANEZ PODOBNIK	SLS+SKD, SLS
ANTON DELAK *	DeSUS	VALENTIN POHOREC	DeSUS
MAG. MARKO DIACI	SMS, INDEPENDENT DEPUTY	MAG. MAJDA POTRATA	ZLSD
DR. JANEZ DRNOVŠEK *	LDS	MIRAN POTRČ	ZLSD
MAG. JANEZ DROBNIČ	NSi	MARIA POZSONEC	DEPUTY OF THE HUNGARIAN NATIONAL COMMUNITY
GEZA DŽUBAN	LDS	CIRIL PUCKO	LDS
ANDREJ FABJAN	SLS+SKD, SLS	FRANC PUKŠIČ	SDS
MATJAŽ FALKNER *	NSi	FRANCI ROKAVEC	SLS+SKD, SLS
DR. SLAVKO GABER *	LDS	MAG. ANTON ROP *	LDS
MAG. MITJA GASPARI*	LDS	PAVEL RUPAR	SDS
MARIO GASPARINI *	LDS	DR. DIMITRIJ RUPEL *	LDS, SAMOSTOJNI POSLANEC, SDS
ANDREJ CERENČER *	LDS	DANICA SIMŠIČ *	ZLSD
LJUBO GERMIČ	LDS	ALOJZ SOK	NSi
SINIŠA GERMOVŠEK *	SDS	STANISLAVA STOPAR*	LDS
MAG. ZORAN GRAČNER	LDS	FRANC SUŠNIK	SDS
LEOPOLD GROŠELJ	ZLSD	MAJDA ŠIRCA	LDS
FRANC (FERI) HORVAT	ZLSD	JOŽEF ŠKOLČ *	LDS
ROMAN JAKIČ *	LDS	JOŽEF ŠPINDLER	LDS
BRANKO JANC	LDS	IGOR ŠTEMBERGER	SMS, INDEPENDENT DEPUTY
IVAN (JANEZ) JANŠA	SDS	BORUT ŠUKLJE *	LDS
ZMAGO JELINČIČ PLEMNITI	SNS	MATJAŽ ŠVAGAN	LDS
MIRAN JERIČ	LDS	JOŽE TANKO	SDS
JOŽEF JEROVŠEK	SDS	DAVORIN TERČON	LDS
AURELIO JURI	ZLSD	MARIJA ANA TISOVIC	NSi
JELKO KACIN *	LDS	VILI TROFENIK	SLS+SKD, SLS

NAME	DEPUTY GROUP
FRANC KANGLER	SLS+SKD, SLS
MAG. BLAŽ KAVČIČ	LDS
JOŽE (JOŽEF) KAVTIČNIK	LDS
IVAN KEBRIČ	DESUS
BRANKO KELEMINA	SDS
JANEZ KOMLJANEC *	LDS
BOJAN KONTIČ	ZLSD
MAG. JANEZ KOPAČ *	LDS
MILAN KOPUŠAR	LDS

NAME	DEPUTY GROUP
JANKO VEBER	ZLSD
MAG. ANDREJ VIZJAK	SDS
BOGOMIR VNUČEC	SMS, SDS
DUŠAN VUČKO	LDS
CVETA ZALOKAR ORAŽEM	LDS
BOGOMIR ZAMERNIK	SDS
JAŠA ZLOBEC LUKIČ *	LDS
MAJDA ZUPAN	NSi

**Key:**  
LDS - Liberal Democracy of Slovenia  
SDS - Social-Democratic Party of Slovenia,  
since 19 March 2003 Slovenian Democratic  
Party  
ZLSD - Associated List of Social Democrats  
SLS+SKD - SLS+SKD Slovene People's Party  
SLS - Slovene People's Party  
NSi - New Slovenia  
DeSUS - Democratic Party of Pensioners of  
Slovenia  
SMS - Youth Party of Slovenia  
SNS - Slovene National Party

## LEADING OFFICIALS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY during the third parliamentary term 2000-2004

<b>PRESIDENT</b>	BORUT PAHOR from 10 November 2000 to 9 July 2004 FRANC (FERI) HORVAT FROM 12 July 2004
<b>VICE-PRESIDENTS</b>	DR. MIHAEL BREJC from 10 November 2000 to 12 July 2004 ANTON DELAK from 10 November 2000 to 6 March 2002 (deceased) IRMA PAVLINIČ KREBS from 10 November 2000 VALENTIN POHOREC from 23 April 2002
<b>SECRETARY GENERAL</b>	JOŽICA VELIŠČEK
<b>SECRETARY OF THE SECRETARIAT FOR LEGISLATIVE AND LEGAL AFFAIRS, since 15 July 2002 HEAD OF LEGISLATIVE AND LEGAL SERVICE</b>	TINA BITENC PENGOV

*Deputies of the National Assembly at the beginning of the third parliamentary term (2000-2004)*



## Deputies of the National Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia in the fourth parliamentary term 2004-2008 (as of 15 July 2007)

NAME	DEPUTY GROUP	NAME	DEPUTY GROUP
ANTON ANDERLIČ	LDS	MITJA LJUBELJŠEK	SDS
JOSIP BAJC	SLS	MIROSLAV LUCI *	SDS
DR. ANDREJ BAJUK *	NSi	DARJA LAVTIŽAR BEBLER	LDS, SD
BOGDAN BAROVIČ	SNS	BRANKO MARINIČ	SDS
ROBERTO BATTELLI	DEPUTY OF THE ITALIAN NATIONAL COMMUNITY	MARTIN MIKOLIČ	NSi
SAMO BEVK	SD	RUDOLF MOGE	LDS
STANISLAV BRENČIČ	SLS	STANE PAJK	SDS
MAG. ANDREJ BRUČAN *	SDS	DR. MARKO PAVLIHA	LDS, SD
MAG. FRANC CAPUDER	NSi	BREDA PEČAN	SD
FRANCE CUKJATI	SDS	SAŠO PEČE	SNS
MAG. MILAN M. CVIKL	LDS, SD	RUDOLF PETAN	SDS
ZVONKO ČERNAČ	SDS	MILAN PETEK	LDS
POLONCA DOBRAJC	SDS	MIRO PETEK	SDS
MAG. JANEZ DROBNIČ *	NSi	MARIJAN POJBIČ *	SDS
MARJAN DROFENIK *	SLS	ALOJZ POSEDEL	LDS, NP
GEZA DŽUBAN	LDS	MAG. MAJDA POTRATA	SD
JOŽEF FICKO *	SDS	MIRAN POTRČ	SD
DR. SLAVKO GABER	LDS, UNAFFILIATED DEPUTY	MARIA POZSONEC	DEPUTY OF THE HUNGARIAN NATIONAL COMMUNITY
DR. PAVEL GANTAR	LDS, NP	JAKOB PRESEČNIK	SLS
LJUBO GERMIČ	LDS	MIHAEL PREVC	SLS
IVAN GRILL	SDS	SREČKO PRIJATELJ	SNS
MAG. BRANKO GRIMS	SDS	FRANC PUKŠIČ *	SDS
ALEŠ GULIČ	LDS	VILI REZMAN	DeSUS
MATJAŽ HAN	SD	MAG. ANTON ROP	LDS, SD
BOJAN HOMAN *	SDS	BOJAN RUGELJ	SDS
FRANC (FERI) HORVAT	SD	PAVEL RUPAR *	SDS
JOŽEF HORVAT	NSi	MAG. BORUT SAJOVIC	LDS
ROBERT HROVAT	SDS	DR. MITJA SLAVINEC	LDS
SREČKO HVAUC	SDS	ALOJZ SOK	NSi
EVA IRGL	SDS	BOJAN STARMAN	SDS
KRISTIJAN JANC	SLS	FRANC SUŠNIK	SDS
JANEZ JANŠA *	SDS	MAJDA ŠIRCA	LDS, NP
FRANC JAZBEC	SDS	JOŽEF ŠKOLČ	LDS
IVAN JELEN	DeSUS	MAG. TOMAŽ ŠTEBE	SDS
ZMAGO JELINČIČ PLEMENITI	SNS	MATJAŽ ŠVAGAN	LDS
ALENKA JERAJ	SDS	JOŽE TANKO	SDS
MIRAN JERIČ	LDS	DAVORIN TERČON	LDS, NP
JOŽEF JEROVŠEK	SDS	CIRIL TESTEN	NSi
AURELIO JURI	SD	VILI TROFENIK	LDS, NP
FRANC KANGLER *	SLS	MARJETKA UHAN	NSi
MAG. VASJA KLAVORA	DeSUS	JANKO VEBER	SD
ANTON KOKALJ	NSi	RUDI VERŠNIK	SDS
BOJAN KONTIČ	SD	MAG. ANDREJ VIZJAK *	SDS

NAME	DEPUTY GROUP
DRAGO KOREN	NSi
DIMITRIJ KOVAČIČ	SDS
MAG. JANEZ KRAMBERGER	SLS
DANIJEL KRIVEC	SDS
MOJCA KUCLER DOLINAR	NSi
DUŠAN KUMER	SD
DR. MATEJ LAHOVNIK	LDS, UNAFFILIATED DEPUTY, NP

NAME	DEPUTY GROUP
BOŠTJAN ZAGORAC	SNS
CVETKA ZALOKAR ORAŽEM	LDS, NP
BOGOMIR ZAMERNIK	SDS
MILENKO ZIHERL	SDS
DR. MILAN ZVER *	SDS
BARBARA ŽGAJNER TAVŠ	SNS
MAG. FRANC ŽNIDARŠIČ	DeSUS

**Key:**  
SDS - Slovenian Democratic Party  
LDS - Liberal Democracy of Slovenia  
NSi - New Slovenia  
SLS - Slovene People's Party  
SNS - Slovene National Party  
DeSUS - Democratic Party of Pensioners of Slovenia  
SD - Social Democrats (until 4 April 2005 known as ZLSD - Associated List of Social Democrats)  
NP - Deputy group of unaffiliated deputies

## LEADING OFFICIALS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY during the fourth parliamentary term 2004-2008

<b>PRESIDENT</b>	FRANCE CUKJATI, M.D. from 22 October 2004
<b>VICE-PRESIDENTS</b>	MAG. VASJA KLAVORA from 22 October 2004 SAŠO PEČE from 22 October 2004 DR. MARKO PAVLIHA from 17 November 2004 to 27 March 2007
<b>SECRETARY GENERAL</b>	MAG. LOVRO LONČAR

*Deputies of the National Assembly at the beginning of the fourth parliamentary term (2004-2008)*



# Working bodies of the National Assembly in individual parliamentary terms

The table below presents the working bodies of the National Assembly in individual parliamentary terms, whereby the bodies with the same or similar scope of work are listed in the same line. If during individual terms different bodies carried out the tasks of one working body, an explanation is provided in the notes. The table does not indicate the duration of office of individual working bodies during the parliamentary term, with the exception of specific cases.

1992-1996	1996-2000	2000-2004	2004-2008 (until 31 Dec. 2006)
Committee on Finance and on Credit and Monetary Policy	Committee on Finance and Monetary Policy		
Committee on Home Policy and Justice		Committee on Home Affairs	Committee on Domestic Policy, Public Administration and Justice
Commission for Local Self-Government			Committee on Local Self-Government and Regional Development
Commission for Petitions		Commission for Petitions <sup>1</sup>	Commission for Petitions, Human Rights and Equal Opportunities
Commission for Women’s Policy	Equal Opportunities Commission		
Committee on Health, Labour, the Family and Social Policy		Committee on Health, Labour, the Family, Social Policy and the Disabled	Committee on Health
Commission for the Affairs of the Disabled			Committee on Labour, the Family, Social Affairs and the Disabled
Committee on the Economy		Committee on the Economy	
Commission Monitoring and Supervising Ownership Transformation of Social Property	Commission Monitoring Ownership Transformation and Privatisation		
Committee on Science, Technology and Development	Committee on Science and Technology	Committee on Culture, Education, Youth, Science and Sport <sup>2</sup>	Committee on Higher Education, Science and Technological Development
Committee on Culture, Education and Sport			Committee on Culture, Education and Sport
Committee on Infrastructure and the Environment			Committee on the Environment and Spatial Planning
			Committee on Transport
Committee on Agriculture and Forestry	Committee on Agriculture, Forestry and Food		
Committee on International Relations		Committee on Foreign Policy	
Committee on Defence			
Commission for Budgetary and Other Public Finance Control		Commission for Budgetary and Other Public Finance Control	

1992-1996	1996-2000	2000-2004	2004-2008 (until 31 Dec. 2006)
Committee Monitoring the Implementation of the Resolution on the Guidelines of the National Security Plan of the Republic of Slovenia			
Commission for National Communities			
Commission for Elections, Appointments and Administrative Affairs <sup>3</sup>			Commission for Mandates and Elections
Mandates and Immunity Commission <sup>3</sup>			
Commission for the Rules of Procedure			
Commission under the Incompatibility of Holding Public Office with Gainful Activity Act			Commission under the Prevention of Corruption Act <sup>4</sup>
Commission for Supervision of the Work of Security and Intelligence Services			Commission for Supervision of Intelligence and Security Services
Commission for European Affairs <sup>5</sup>			Committee on EU Affairs
	Slovenian delegation to the Joint Parliamentary Committee <sup>5</sup>		
	Commission for Relations with Slovenes in Neighbouring and Other Countries		
	Constitutional Commission <sup>6</sup>	Constitutional Commission	
	Commission for the Voting System and Constitutional Amendments <sup>6</sup>		

**Notes:**

- 1 In the previous term, the Equal Opportunities Commission was not established and the issue was dealt with by the Committee on Home Affairs.
- 2 In the previous term, the issues regarding science, technology and development were partly covered also by the Committee on the Economy.
- 3 The Mandates and Immunity Commission and the Commission for Elections, Appointments and Administrative Affairs ceased to operate with the adoption of the new Rules of Procedure on 11 July 2002; their work was continued by the new Commission for Mandates and Elections.
- 4 In the current term, the Commission under the Incompatibility of Holding Public Office with Gainful Activity Act was established and should begin to operate with the entry into force of the said Act; however, the implementation of the Act was suspended by the Constitutional Court in April 2006 pending the final decision thereon. At the moment of publication of this brochure, the Commission has not yet regained its functions.
- 5 The Commission for European Affairs and the Slovenian delegation to the Joint Parliamentary Committee ceased to operate on 21 May 2004; their work was continued by the Committee on EU Affairs.
- 6 The Constitutional Commission was elected on 12 June 1997 and ceased to operate in 18 February 1998. The Commission for the Voting System and Constitutional Amendments was elected on 28 October 1999.

# SLOVENE NATIONAL SYMBOLS

## The Slovene coat-of-arms

The Slovene coat-of-arms is in the form of a shield. The shield bears a central image of Mt. Triglav in white on a blue background. Two undulating blue lines below it represent the sea and rivers, and three six-pointed gold stars are arranged above it in an inverted triangle. The sides of the shield have a red border. The coat-of-arms was designed by the academy sculptor Marko Pogačnik.



## The Slovene flag

The flag of the Republic of Slovenia consists of the popular tricolour plus the Slovene coat-of-arms in the top left. The white-blue-red combination appears in that order from top to bottom in three equal bands.

The national flag of Slovenia became official on 24 June 1991, when the Slovene Assembly adopted Amendment C (100) to the 1974 Constitution, and replaced the old flag on the eve of independence.



# The Slovene national anthem

The text of the Slovene national anthem is the seventh stanza of A Toast (Zdravljica), by France Prešeren (1800-1849). The tune is taken from the choral work of the same name by the composer Stanko Premrl (1880-1965).

Prešeren's A Toast was adopted as the Slovene anthem by the Slovene Assembly on 29 March 1990, and thus before Slovenia became independent. Its adoption was just one of many symbolic affirmations of Slovene nationhood.



**The text of the anthem, in its best-known English translation, is:**

God's blessing on all nations,  
Who long and work for that bright day,  
When o'er earth's habitations  
No war, no strife shall hold its sway;  
Who long to see  
That all men free  
No more shall foes, but neighbours be.

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## NATIONAL ASSEMBLY 1992 - 2007

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